

## NOOR JAHAN

Born a poor refugee, Meher was blessed with both spirit and talent. She could ride horseback and design fine clothes. She could lead armies to victory and yet be a doting wife. She could attend to the problems of a vast empire, and at the same time be blissfully happy making perfumes. Emperor Jahangir fell under her spell and aptly named her Noor Jahan, for she lit up his world with her love.

BRAVEHEARTS

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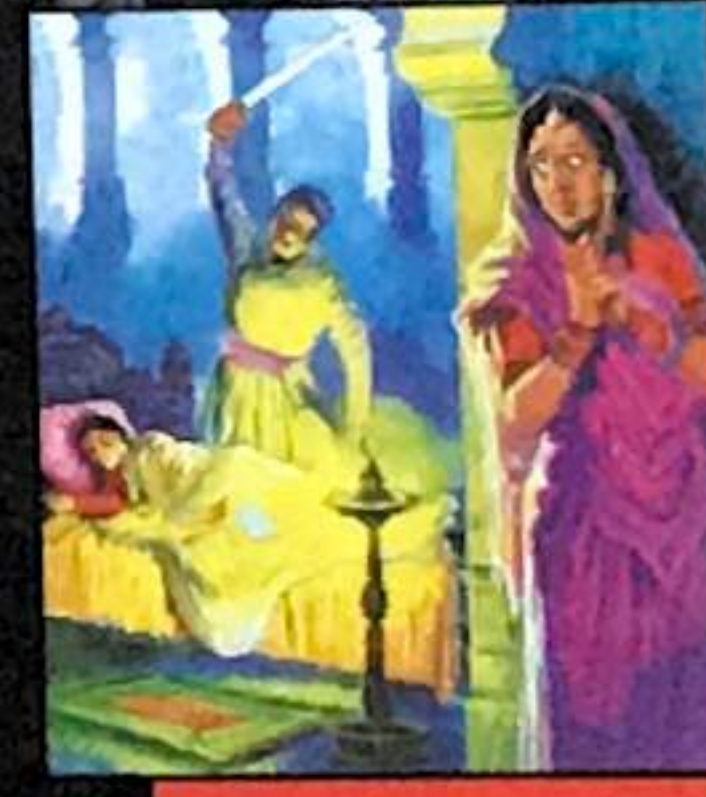
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- NARAYAN MURTHY, CHIEF MENTOR, INFOSYS



# NOOR JAHAN

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Vol 701 | ₹50



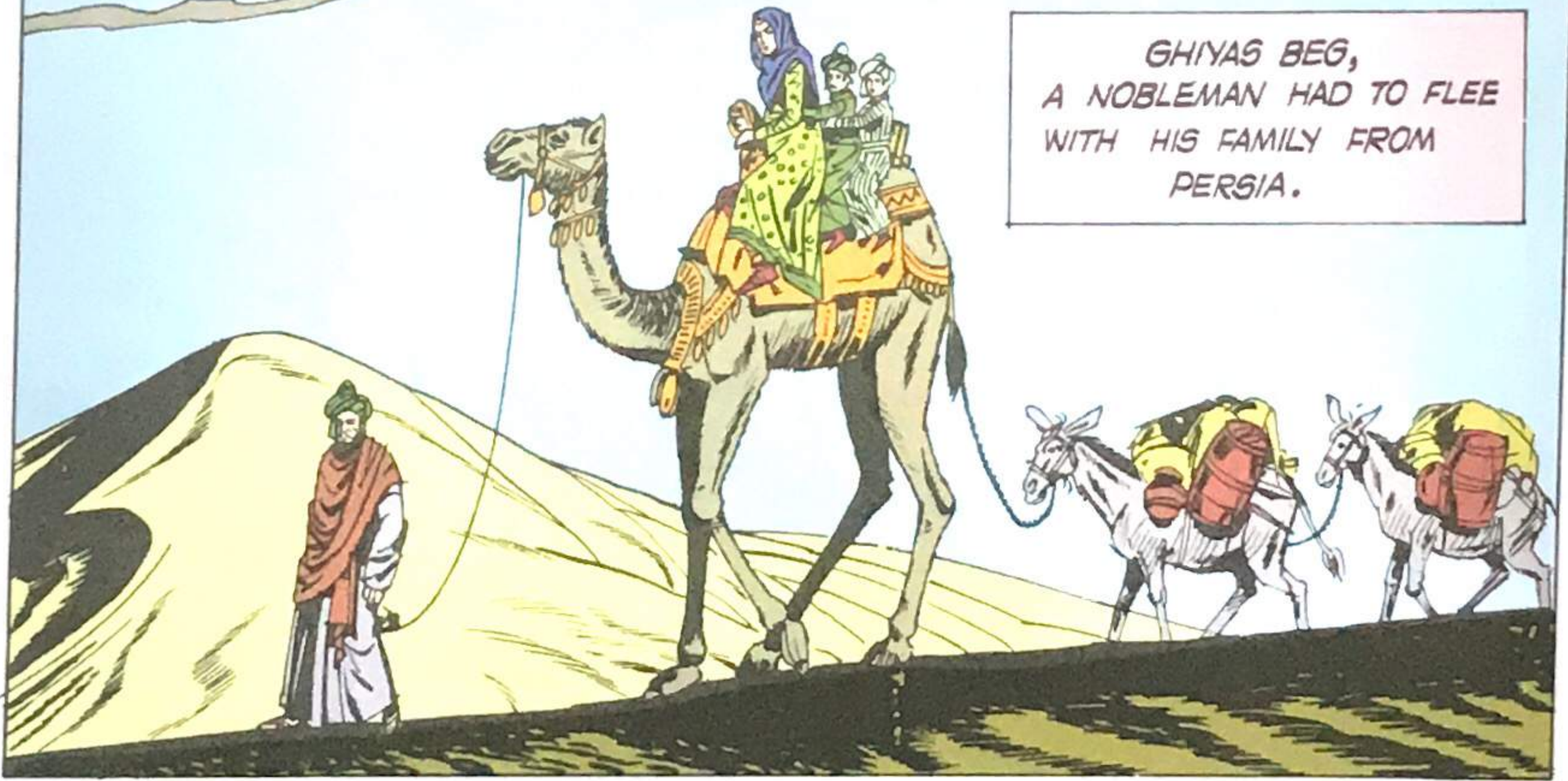
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# NOOR JAHAN

GHIYAS BEG,  
A NOBLEMAN HAD TO FLEE  
WITH HIS FAMILY FROM  
PERSIA.

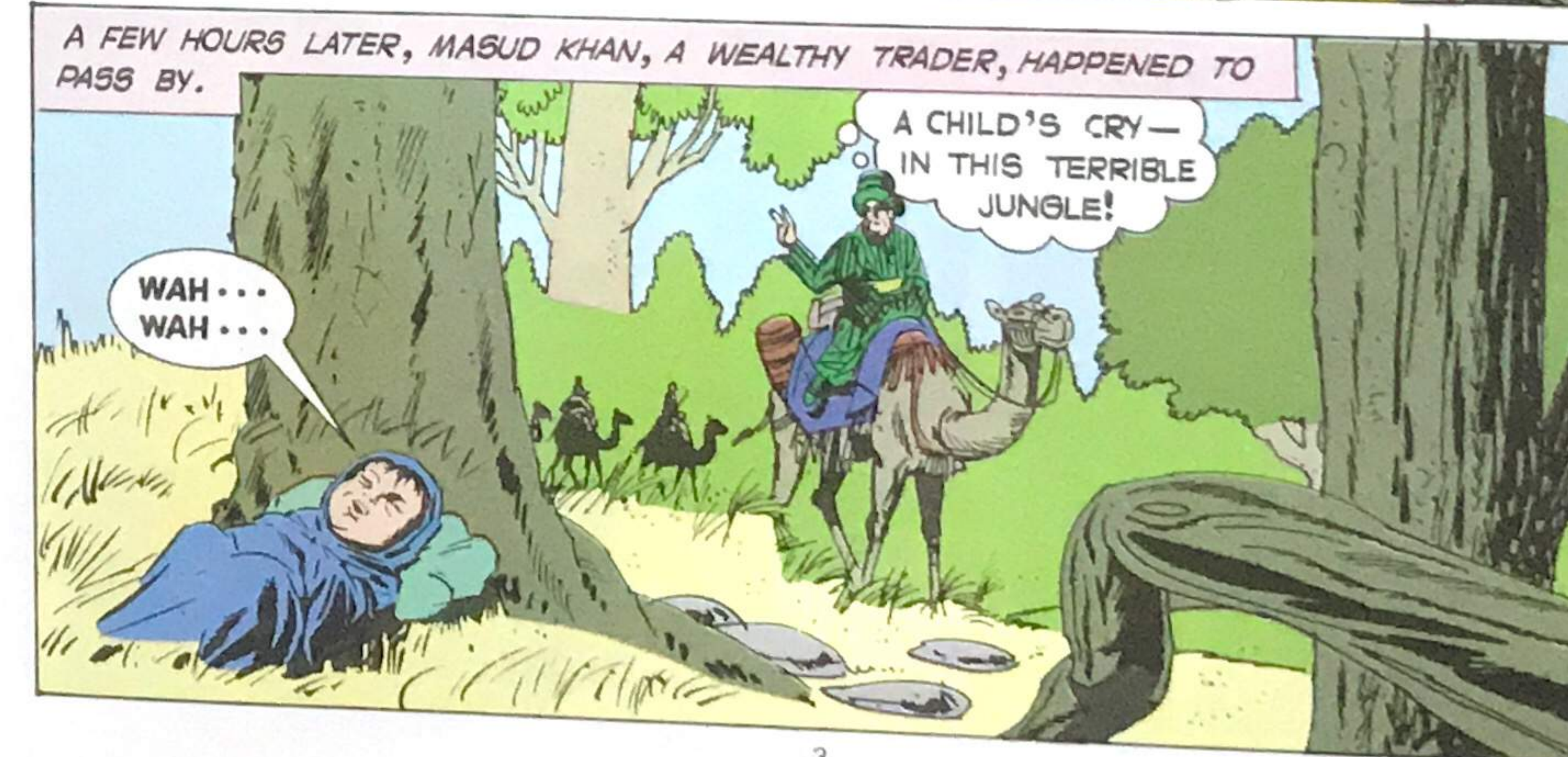
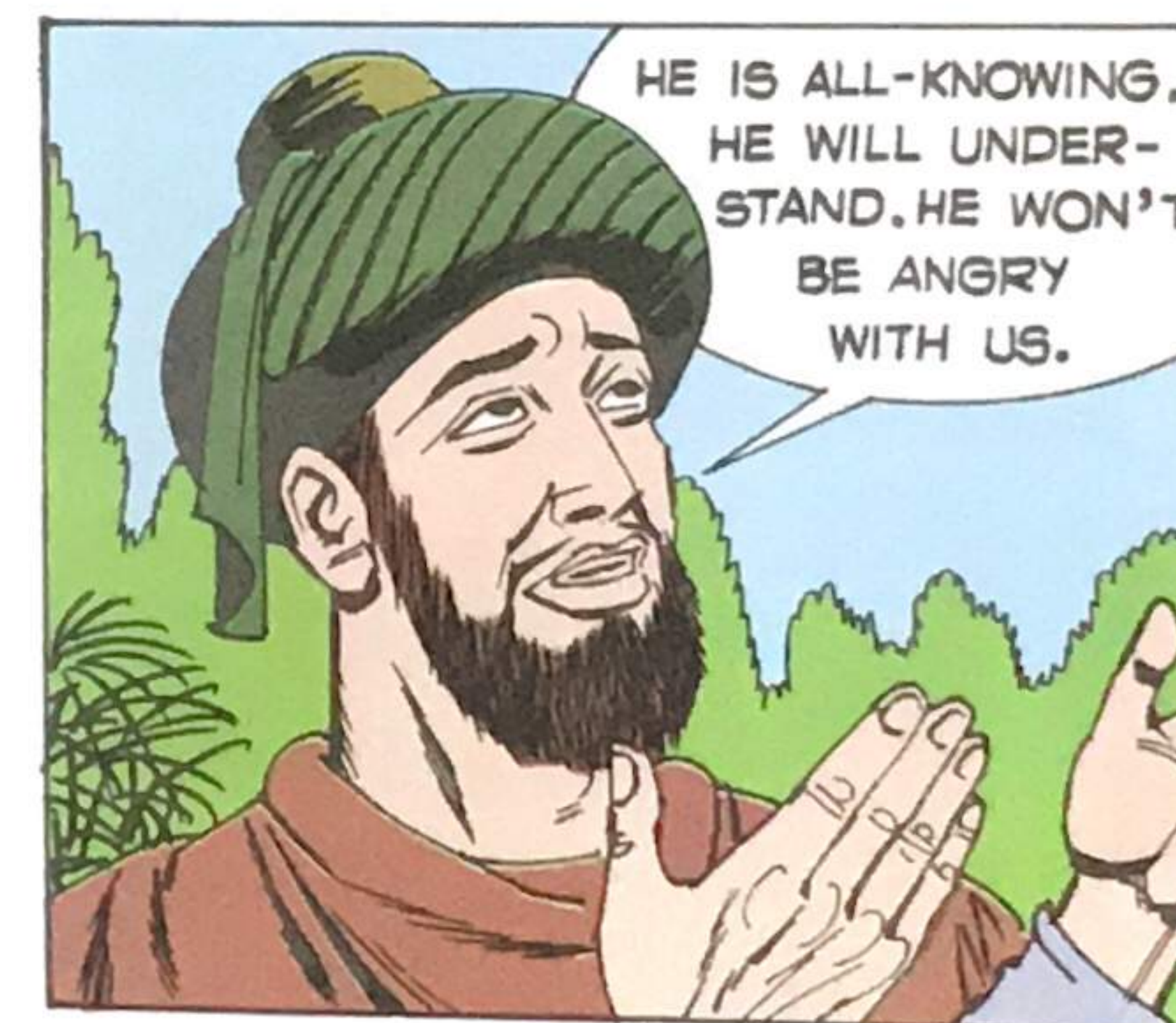
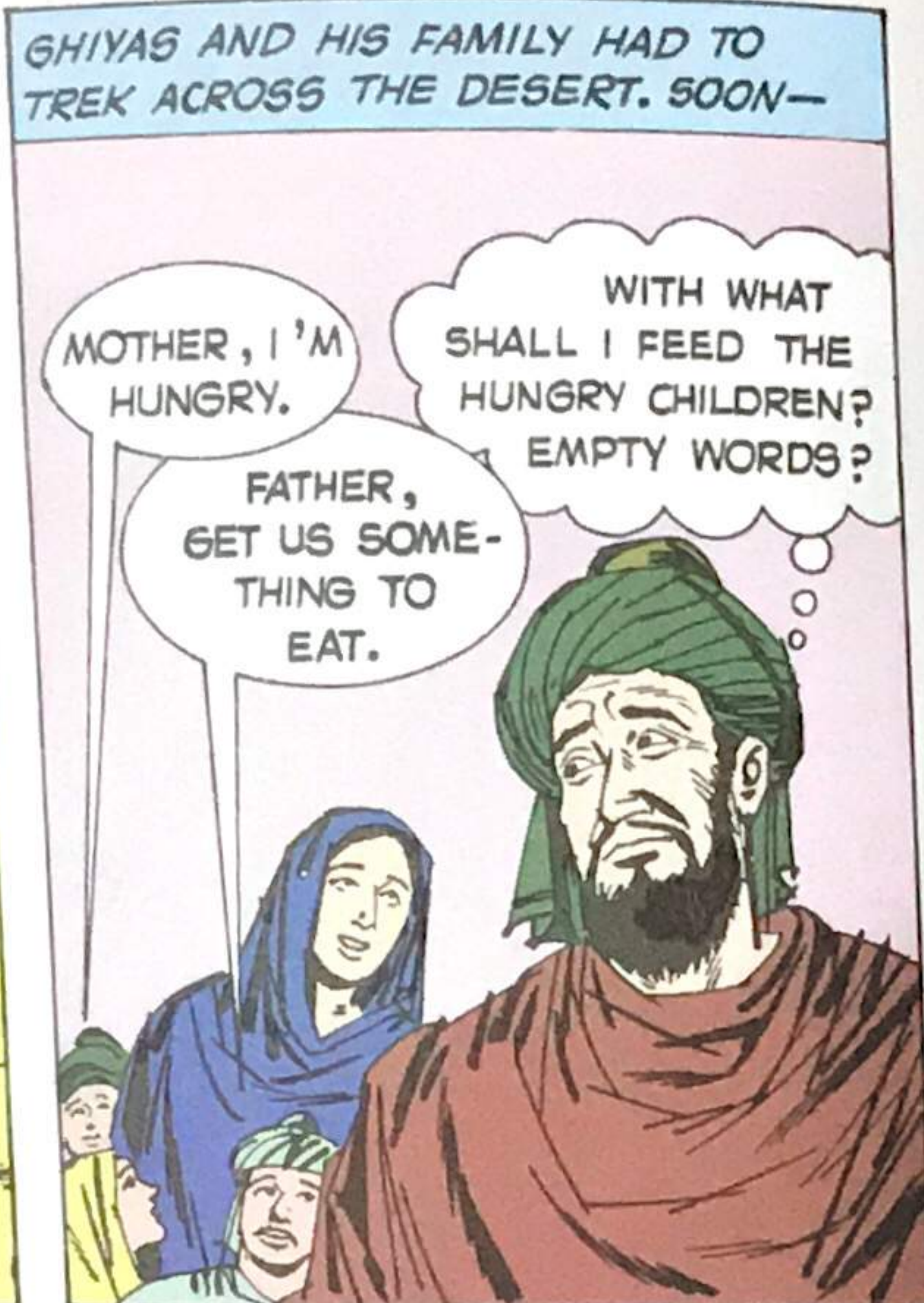
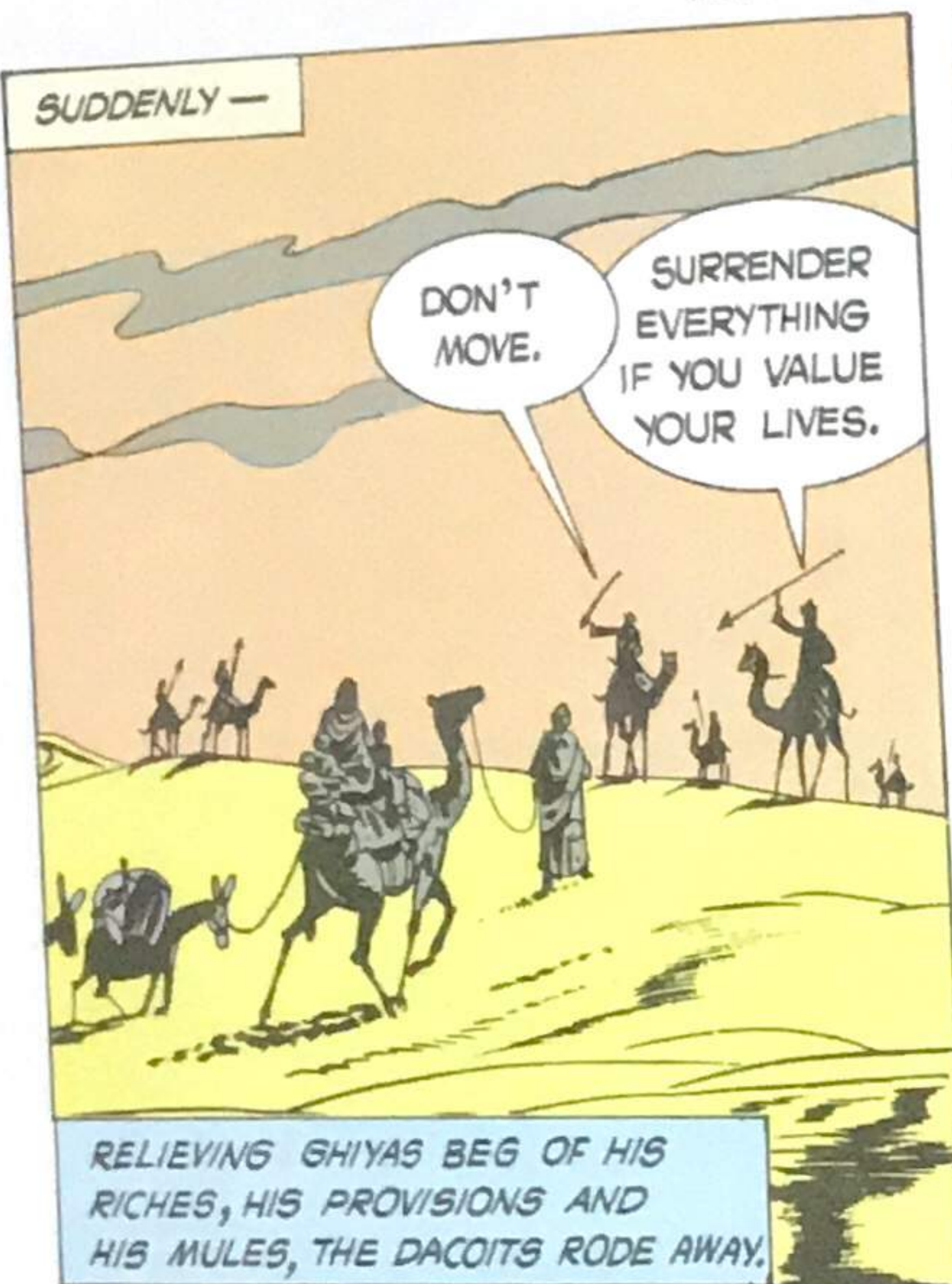


WHAT IS  
TO BECOME  
OF US?

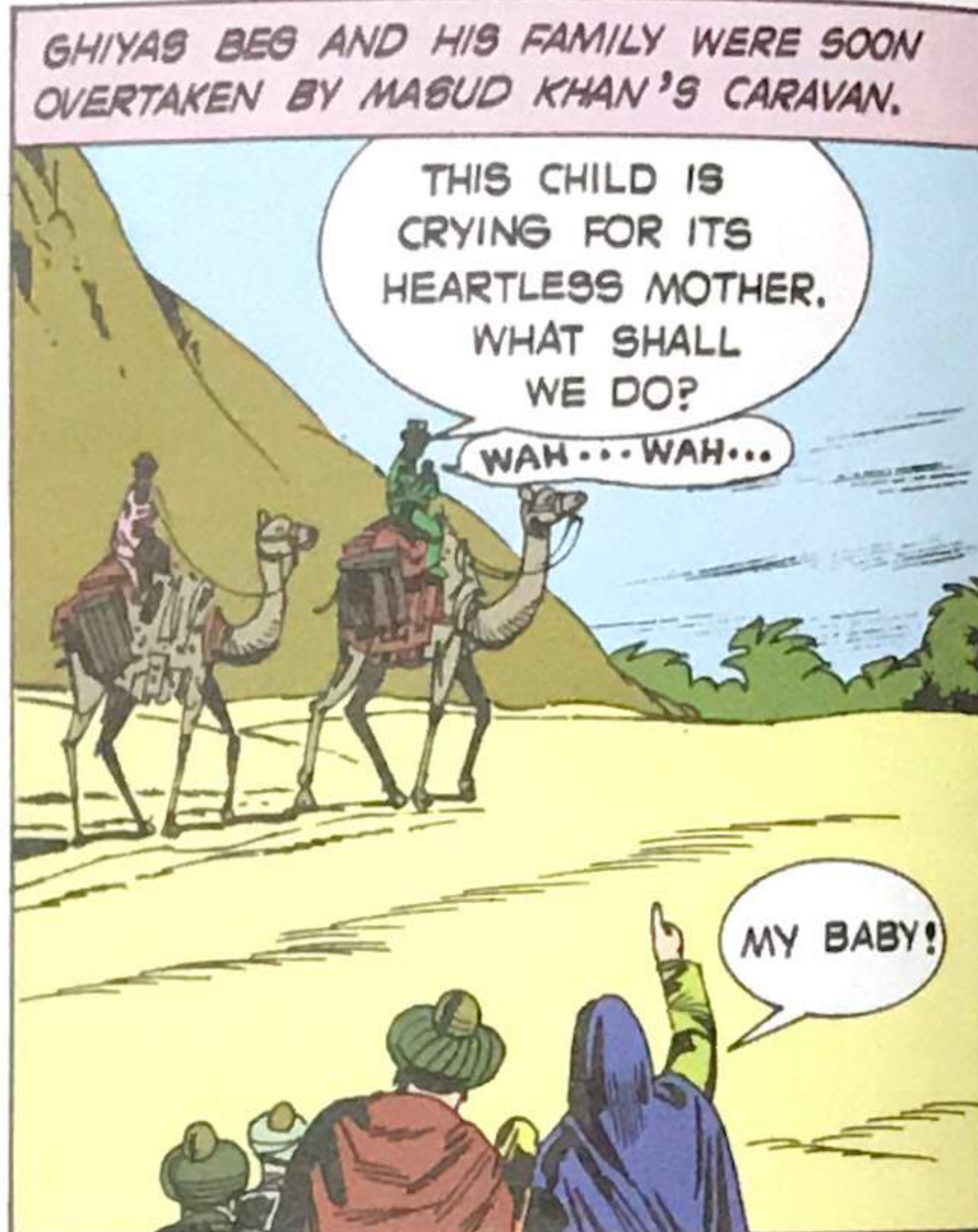
DON'T WORRY.  
WITH THE RICHES WE  
HAVE MANAGED TO  
BRING AWAY, WE CAN  
MAKE A FRESH BEGIN-  
NING IN HINDUSTAN.













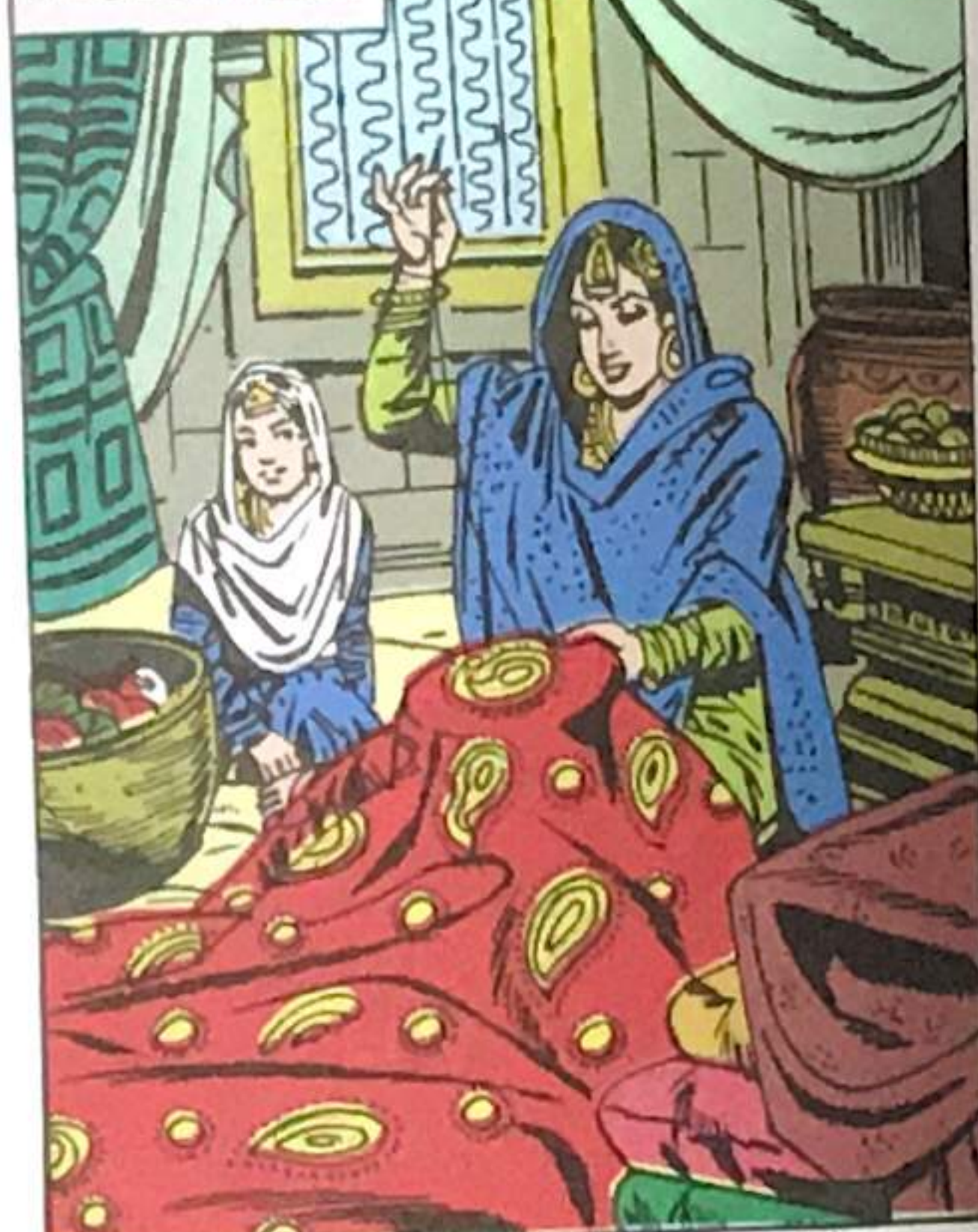
WHEN THEY REACHED HINDUSTAN, GHIYAS BEG WAS TAKEN TO THE COURT OF EMPEROR AKBAR AT FATEHPUR SIKRI.

WE ARE PLEASED TO APPOINT YOU AS A MANSABDAR\* IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY.

I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU, JAHANPANAHA.



BUT WHAT GHIYAS BEG EARNED AS MANSABDAR WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN THE FAMILY. SO HIS WIFE SPENT HOURS EMBROIDERING SILKS WHILE MEHER WATCHED HER, FASCINATED.

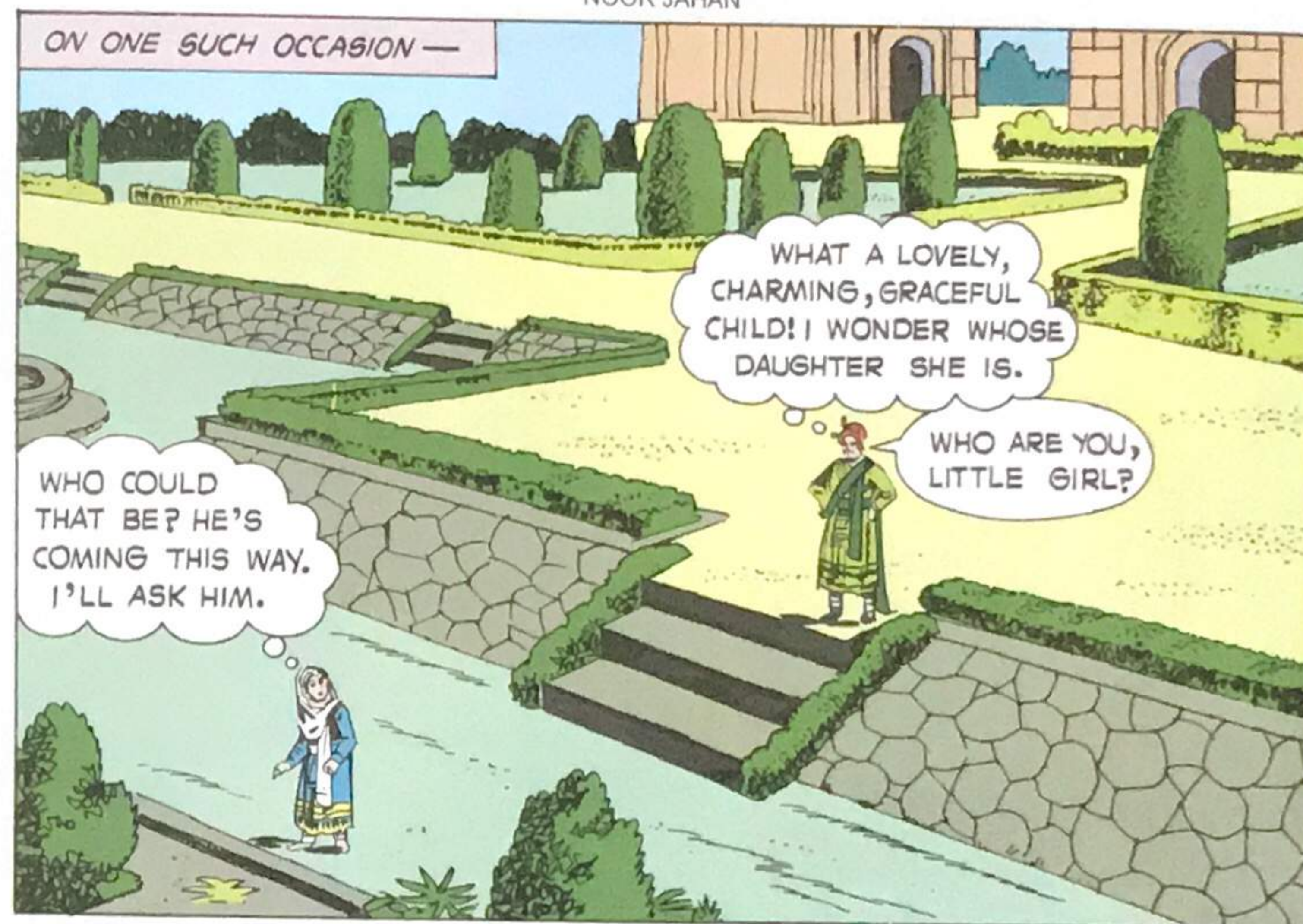


ON ONE SUCH OCCASION —

WHO COULD THAT BE? HE'S COMING THIS WAY. I'LL ASK HIM.

WHAT A LOVELY, CHARMING, GRACEFUL CHILD! I WONDER WHOSE DAUGHTER SHE IS.

WHO ARE YOU, LITTLE GIRL?



EQUALLY FASCINATED WERE THE LADIES OF THE HAREM, TO WHOM SHE SOLD THE MATERIAL.

SUCH EXQUISITE WORK!

I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT, MADAM.



DURING SUCH VISITS, MEHER OFTEN WENT WITH HER MOTHER TO THE PALACE.

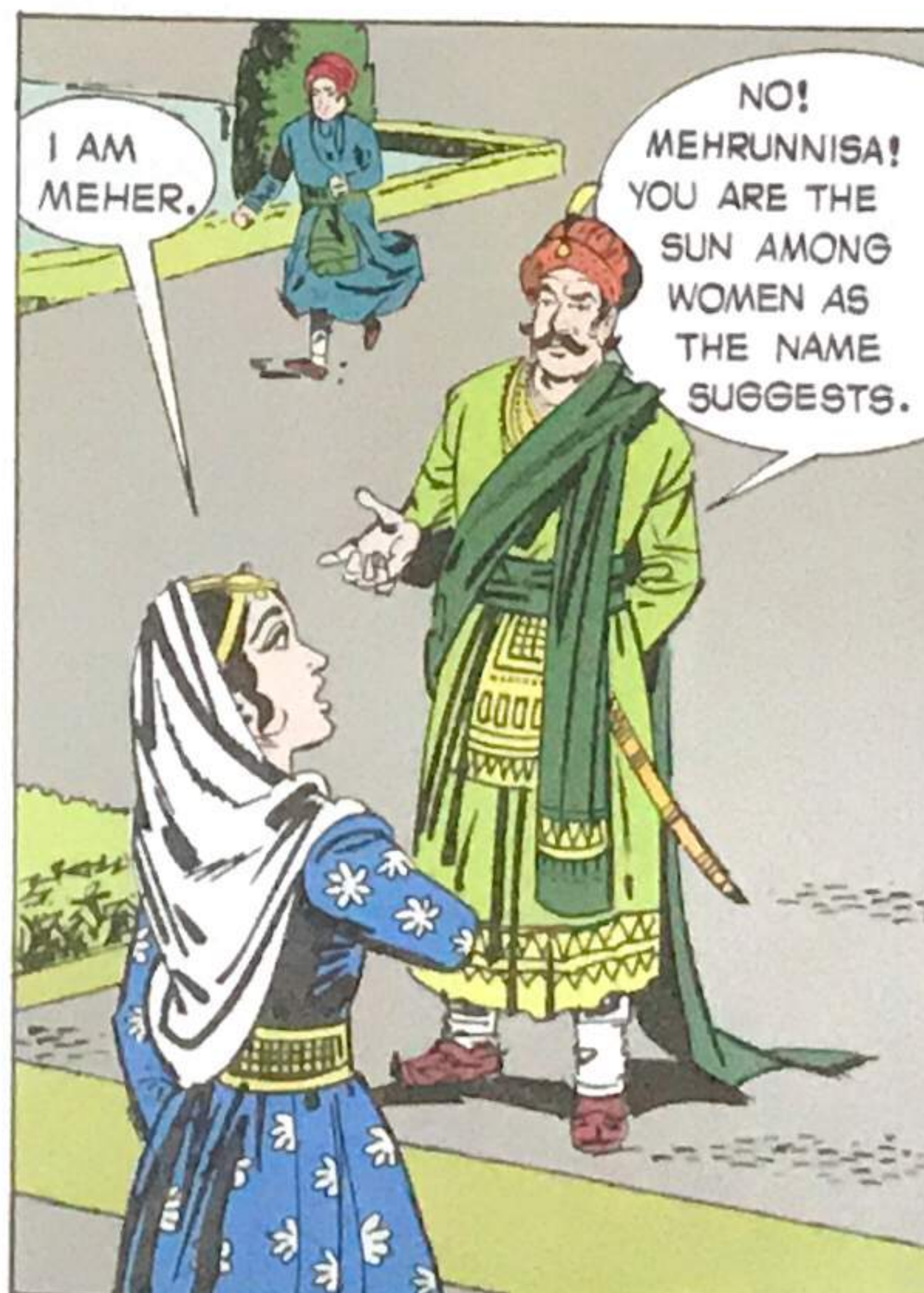
I WILL WAIT HERE FOR YOU, MOTHER.

ALL RIGHT, DEAR. I WILL SOON BE BACK.



I AM MEHER.

NO! MEHRUNNISA! YOU ARE THE SUN AMONG WOMEN AS THE NAME SUGGESTS.

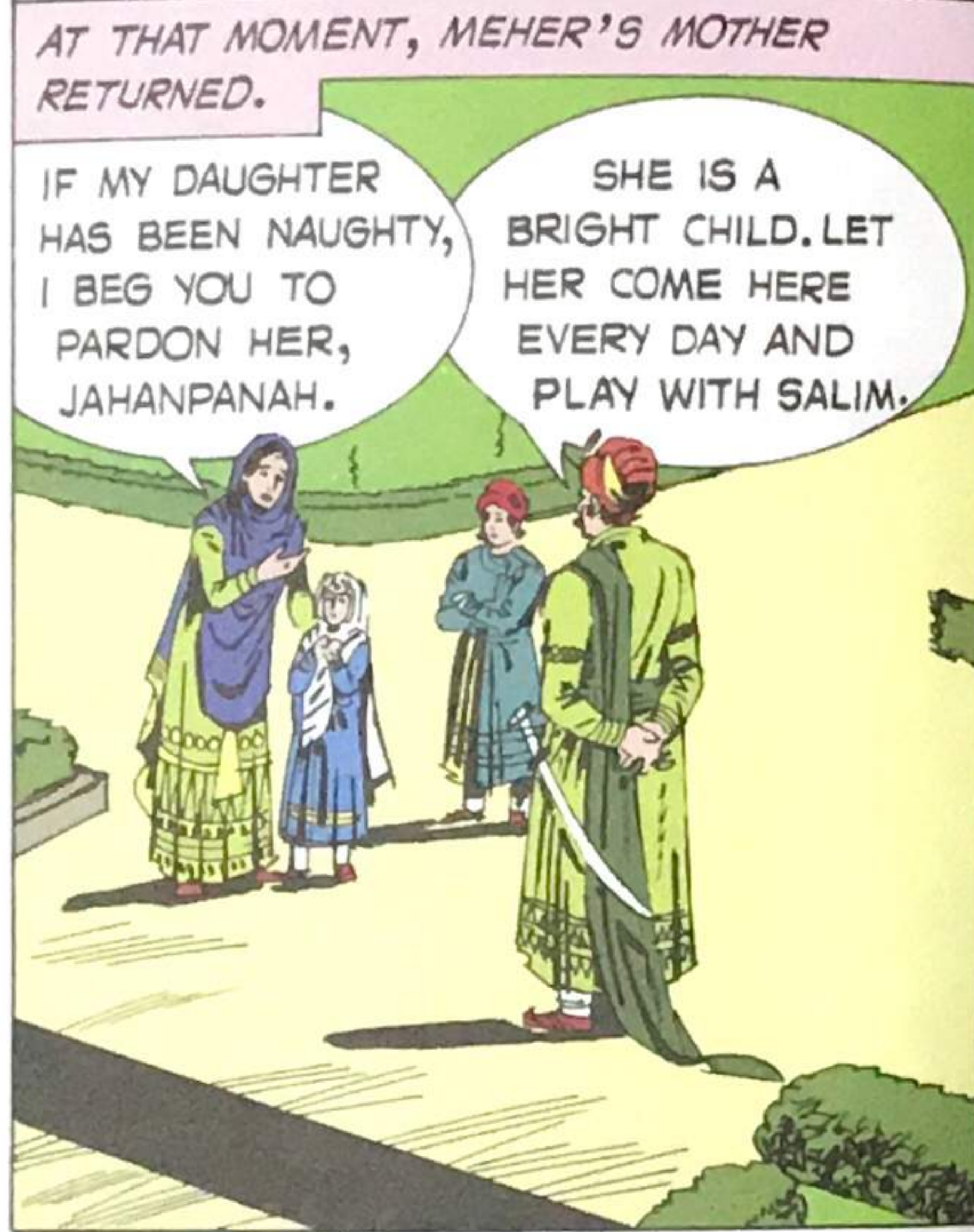


NOW TELL ME WHO YOU ARE.

DON'T YOU KNOW WHO HE IS? HE'S AKBAR, THE EMPEROR.









"I WAS ENRAGED BY HER ATTITUDE AND HER CALM REPLY."



HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

"SHE LET GO THE OTHER DOVE TOO."



LIKE THIS!

HEY! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

SALIM GLARED AT MEHER AS HE CONCLUDED HIS TALE.

...AND YOU CALL HER POOR, LITTLE DARLING!

SALIM, MY MEHER IS A GIRL OF HIGH SPIRITS. YOU MUST FORGIVE HER.



SALIM WAS MOLLIFIED AND SUDDENLY BEGAN TAKING A GREATER INTEREST IN MEHER THAN EVER BEFORE. HE TAUGHT HER RIDING...



... AND ARCHERY.



THAT WAS A GOOD SHOT, MEHER!

YEARS ROLLED BY. ONE DAY—

MEHER, I LOVE YOU. WILL YOU MARRY ME?

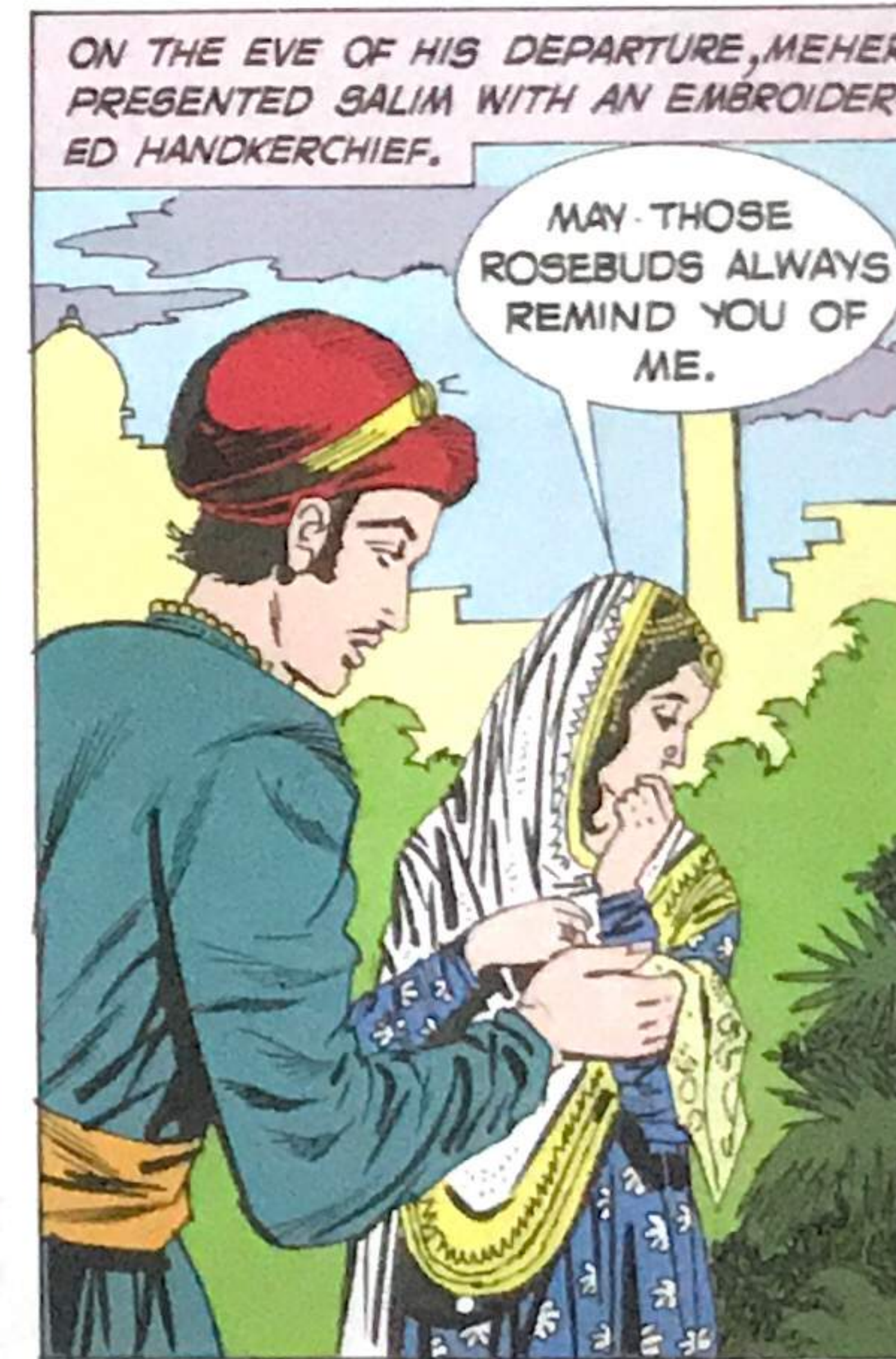
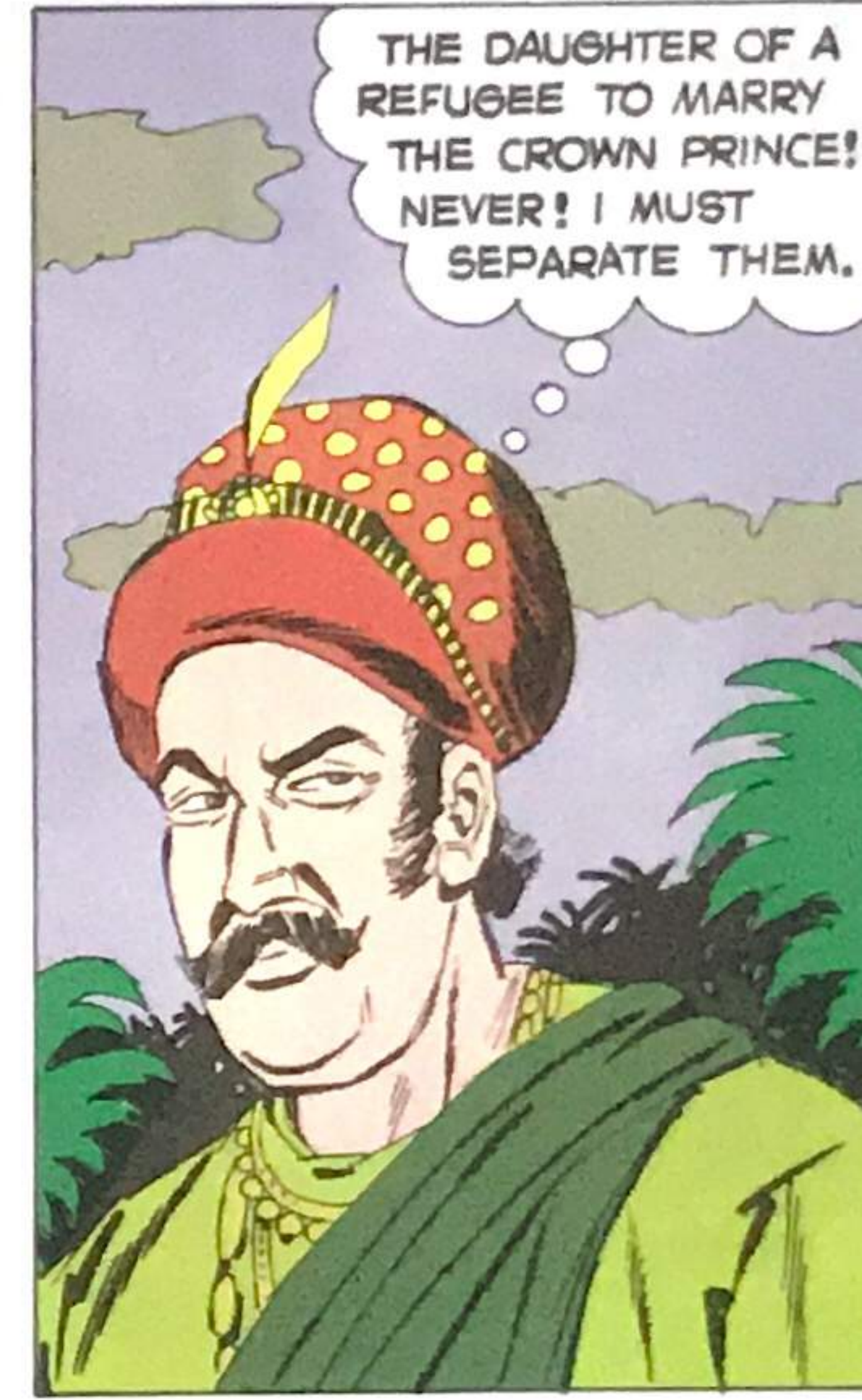
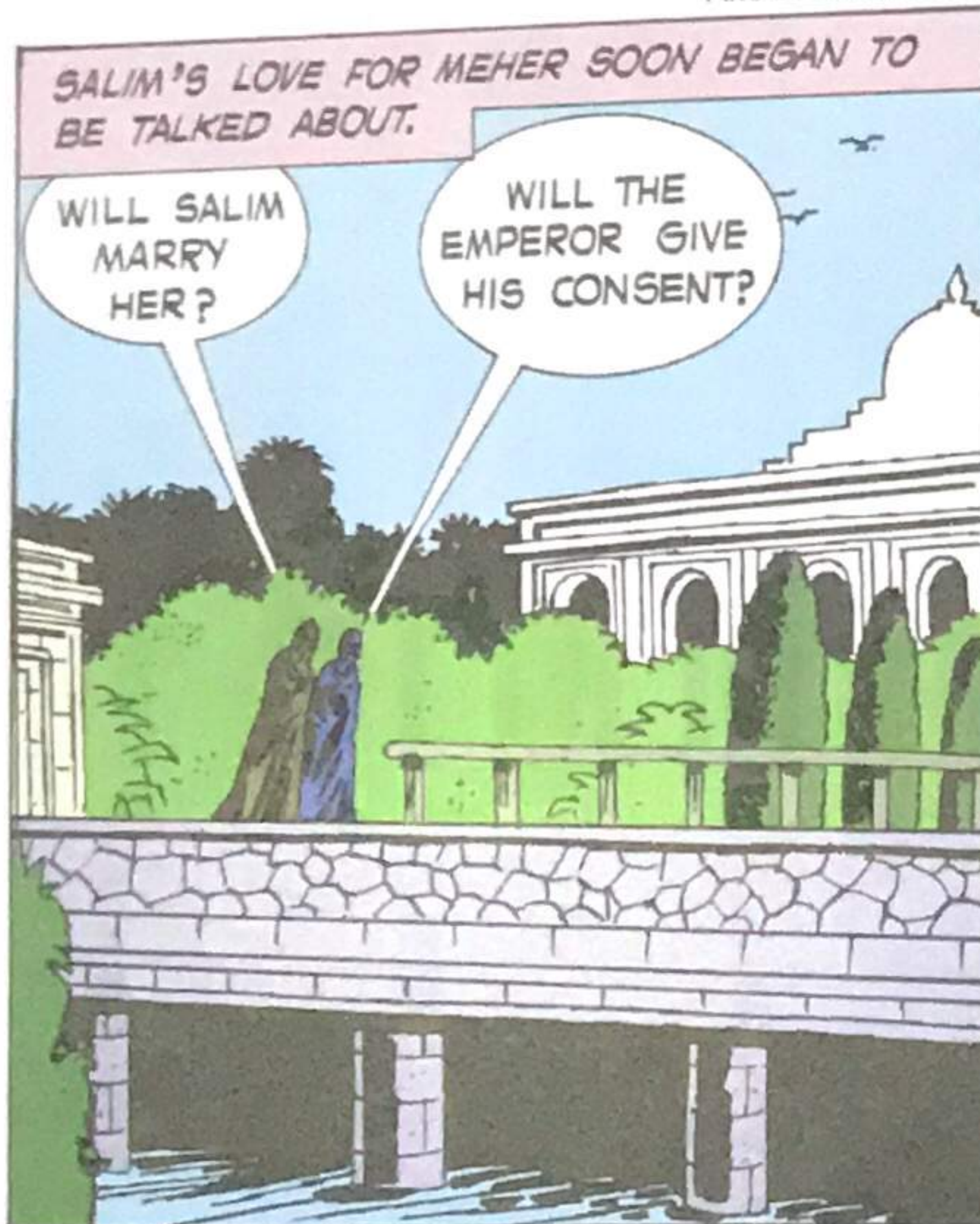


BUT HOW CAN I? YOU ARE A PRINCE. I AM...

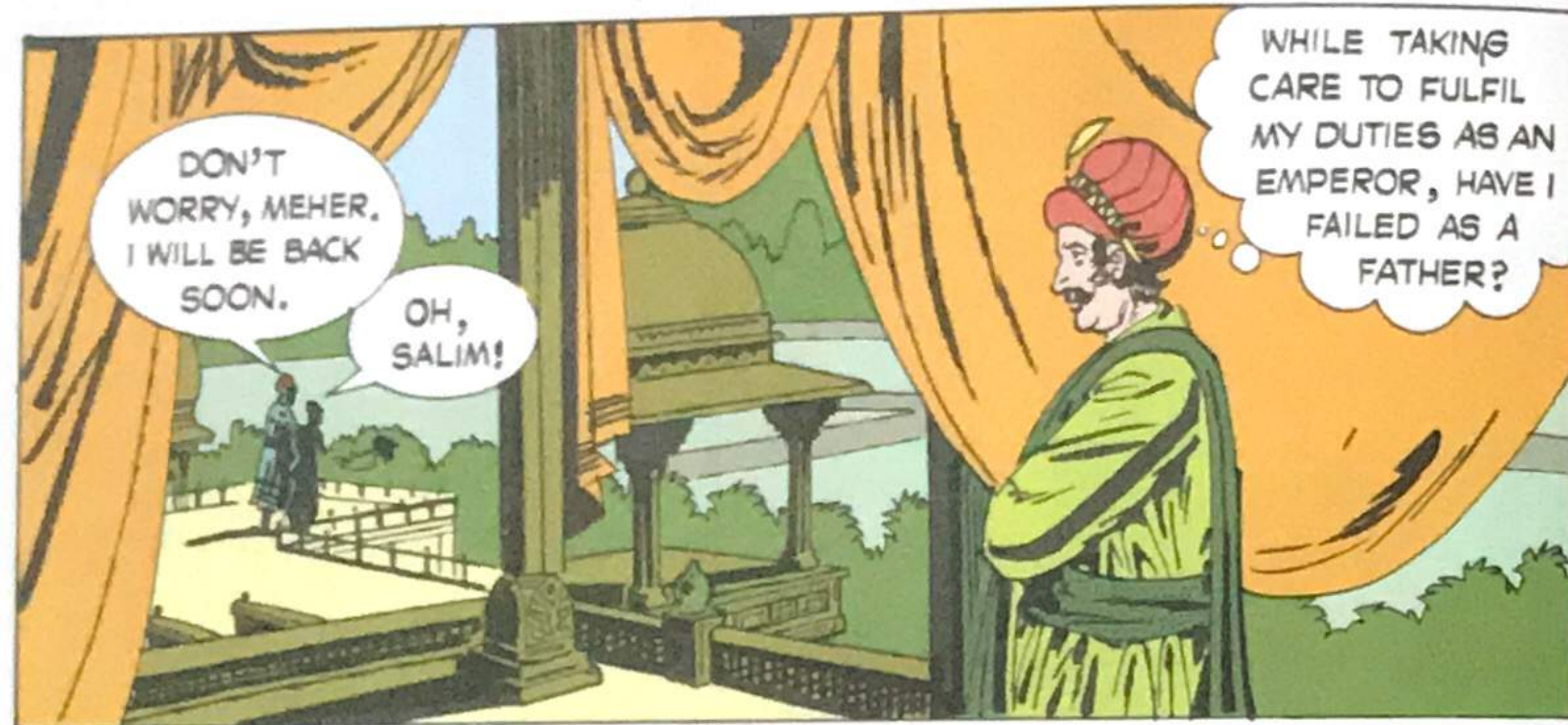
... AN ANGEL! LIGHT OF THE WORLD—OF MY WORLD!



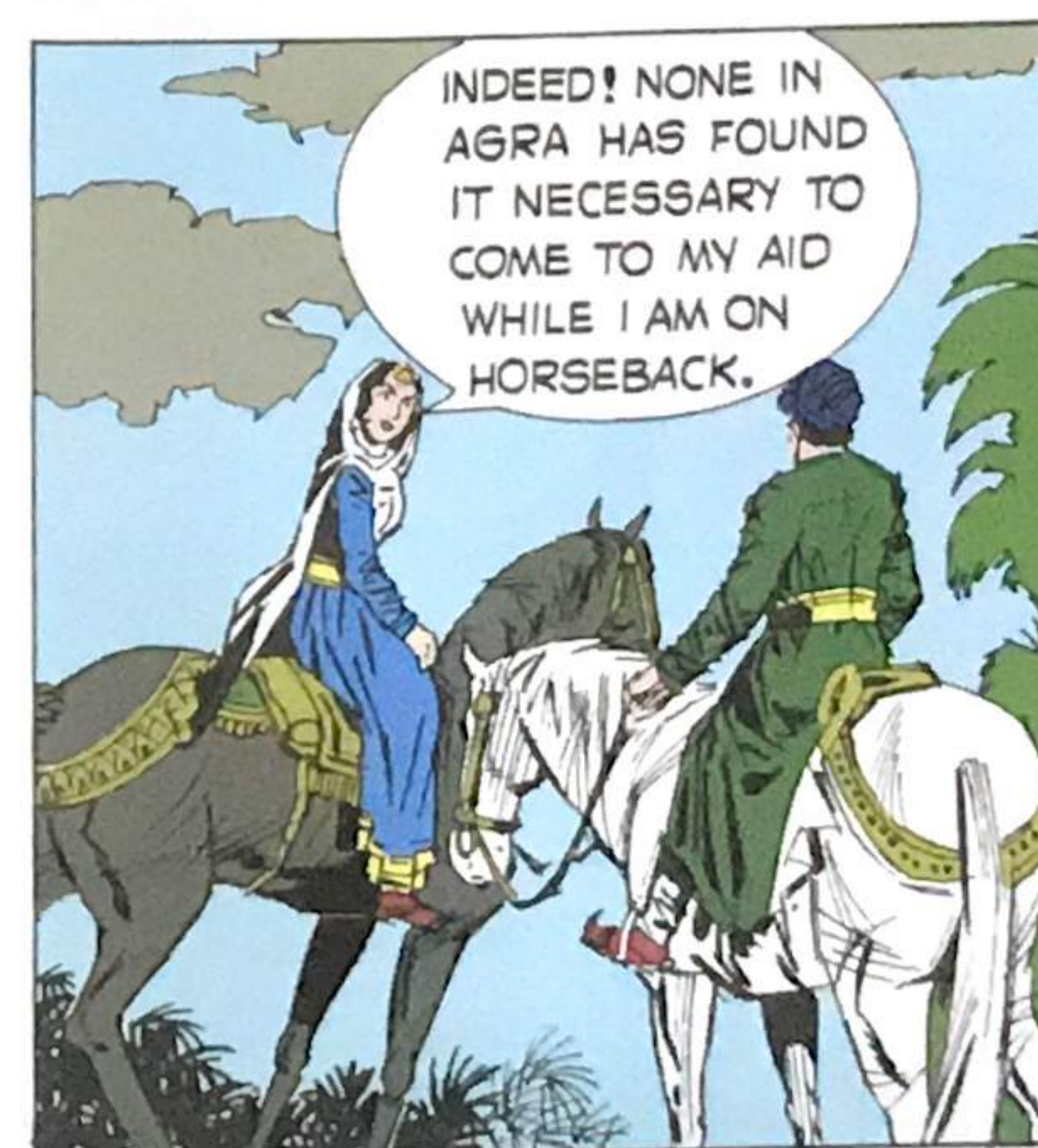
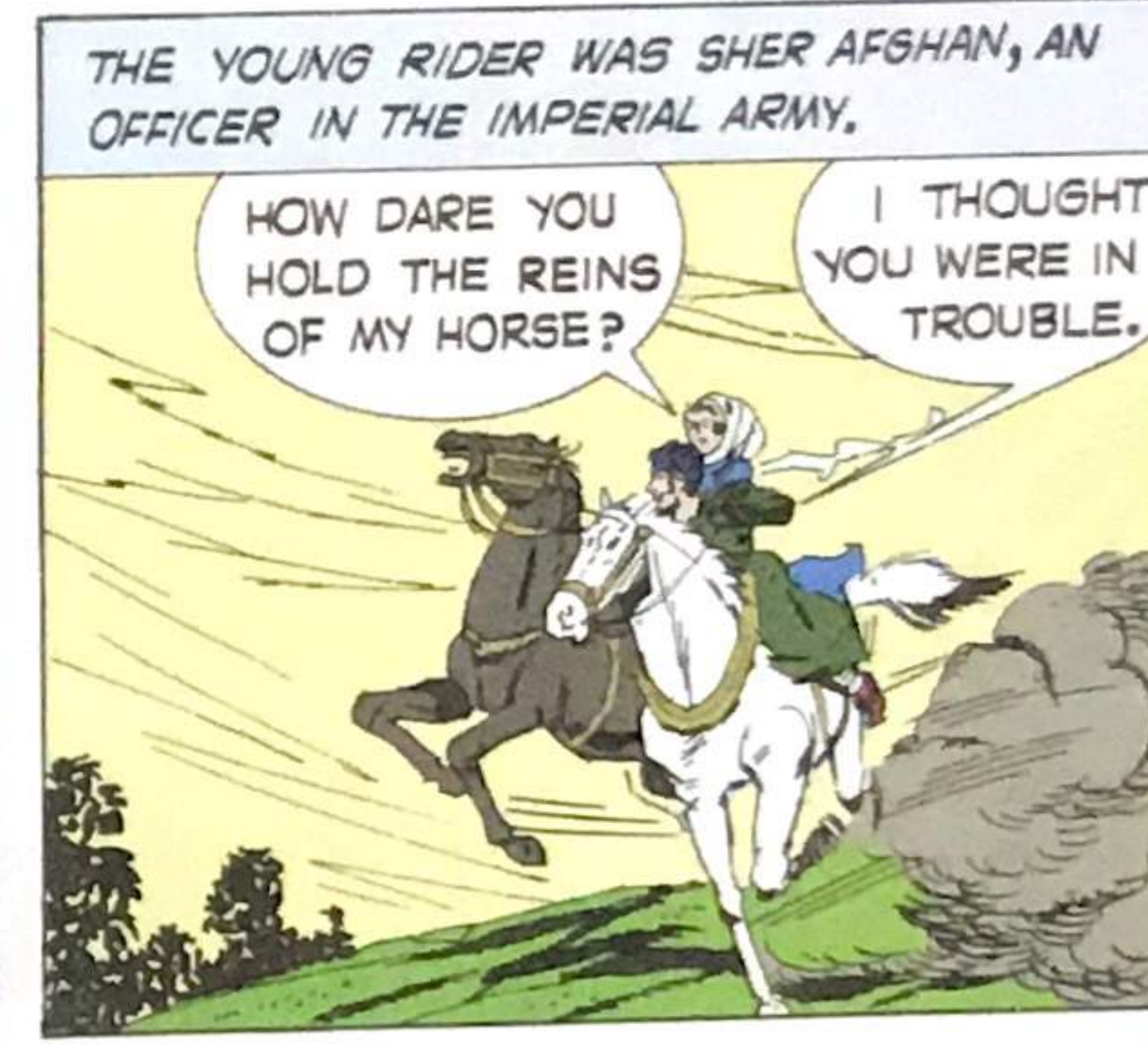
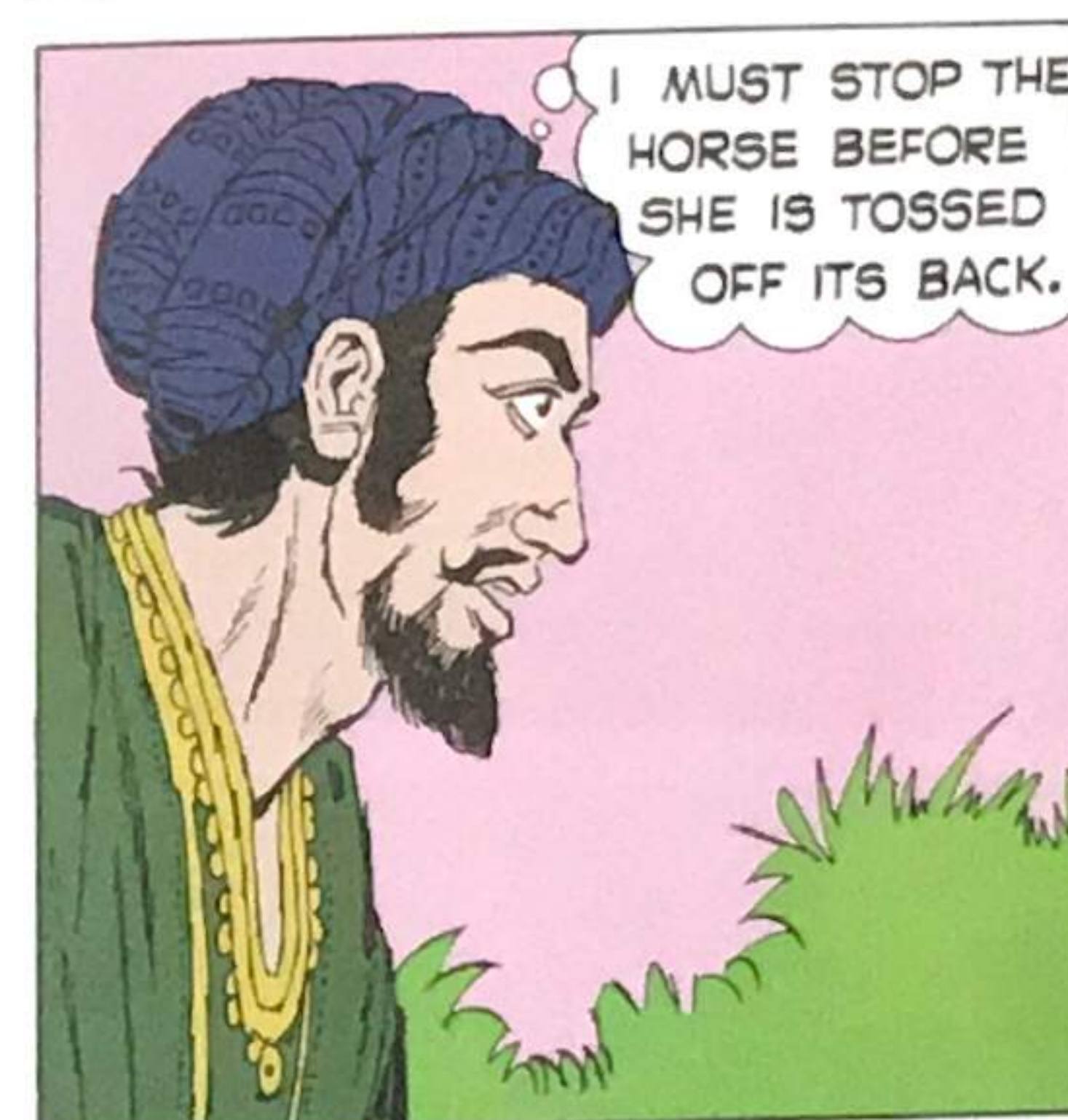
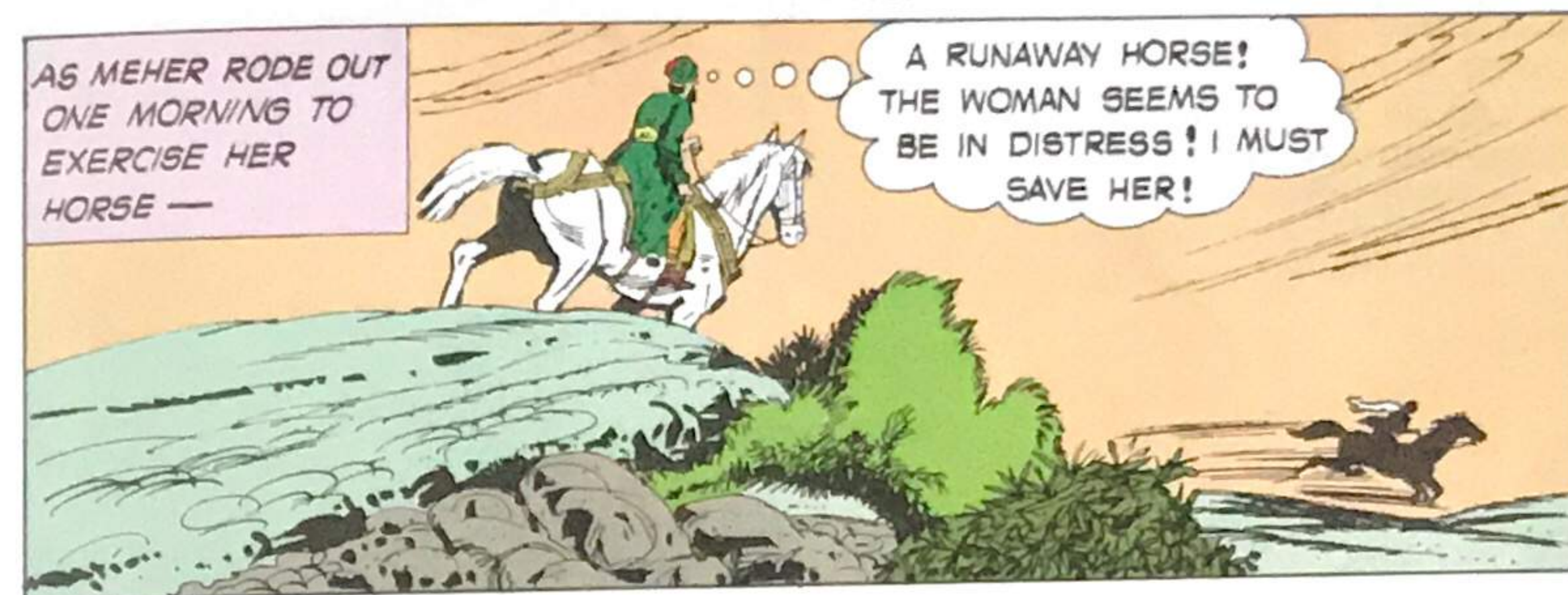
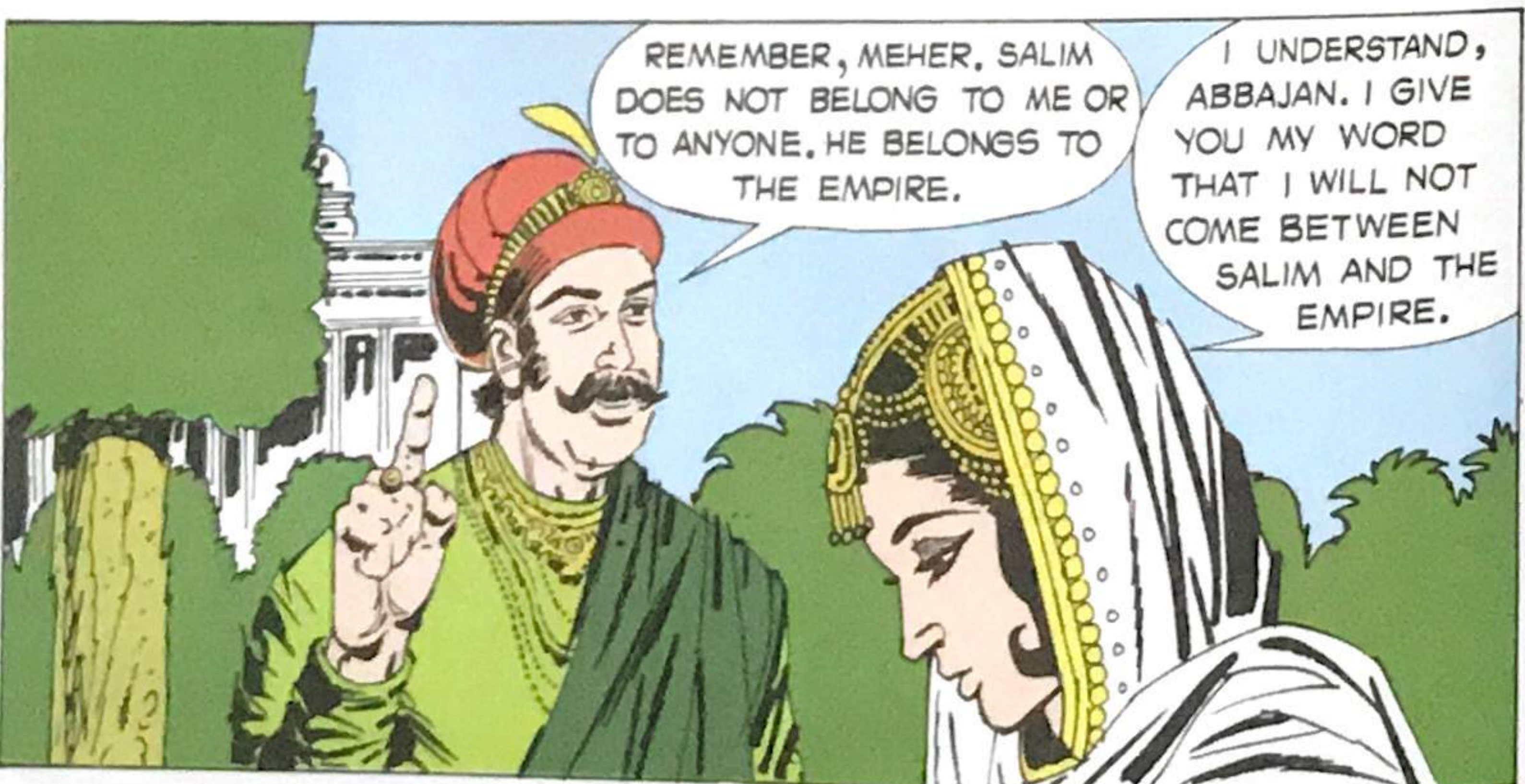




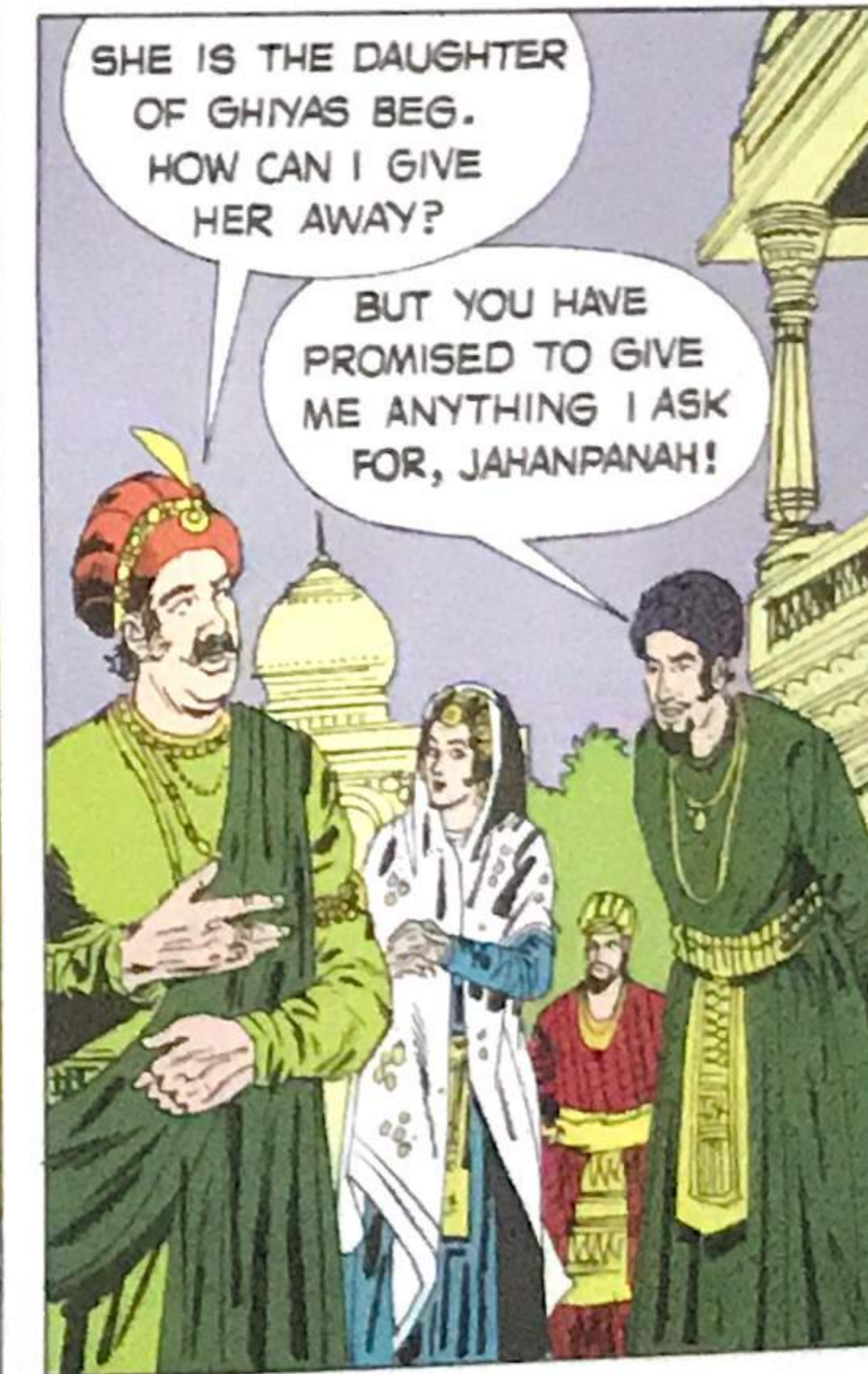
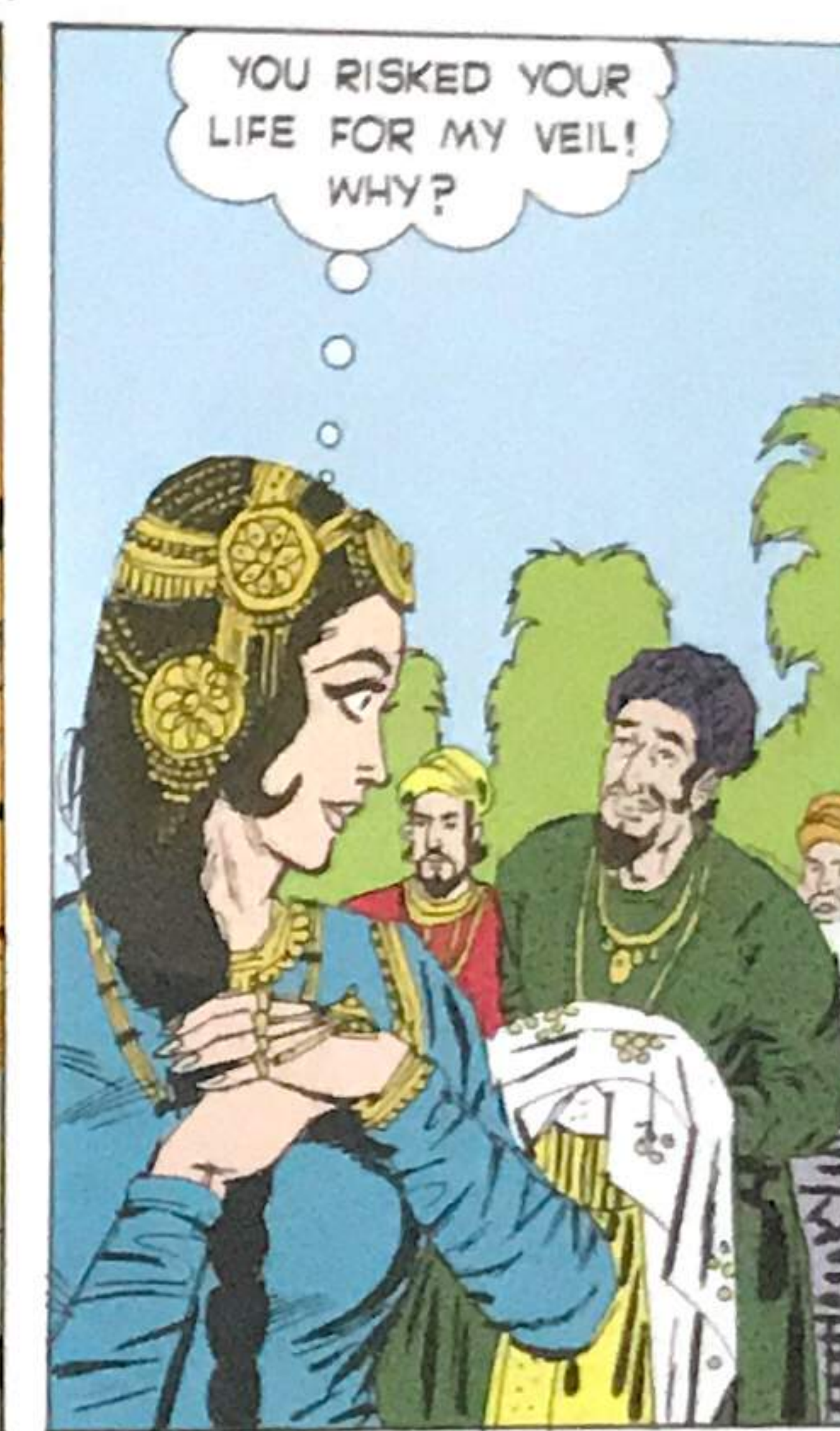
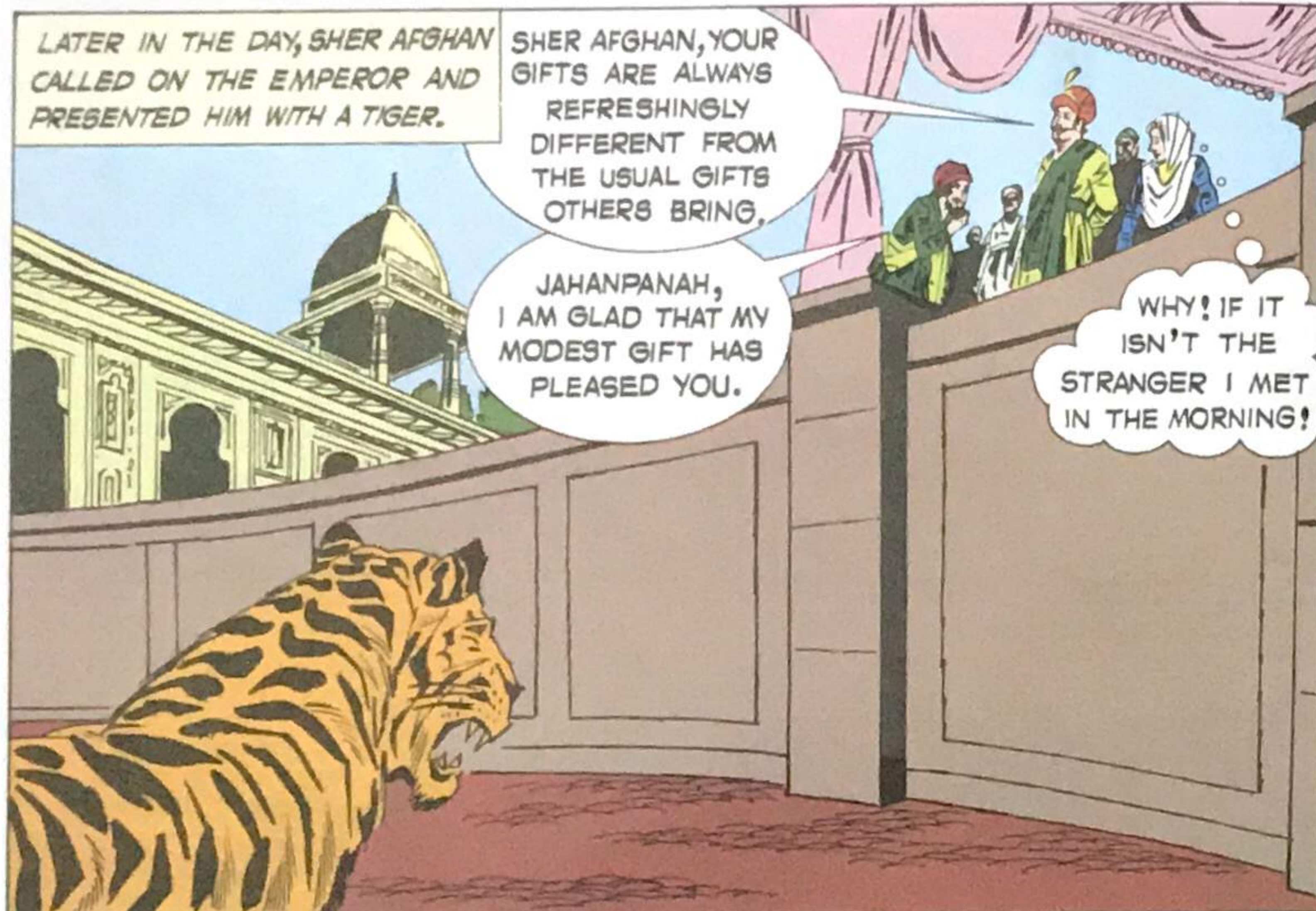




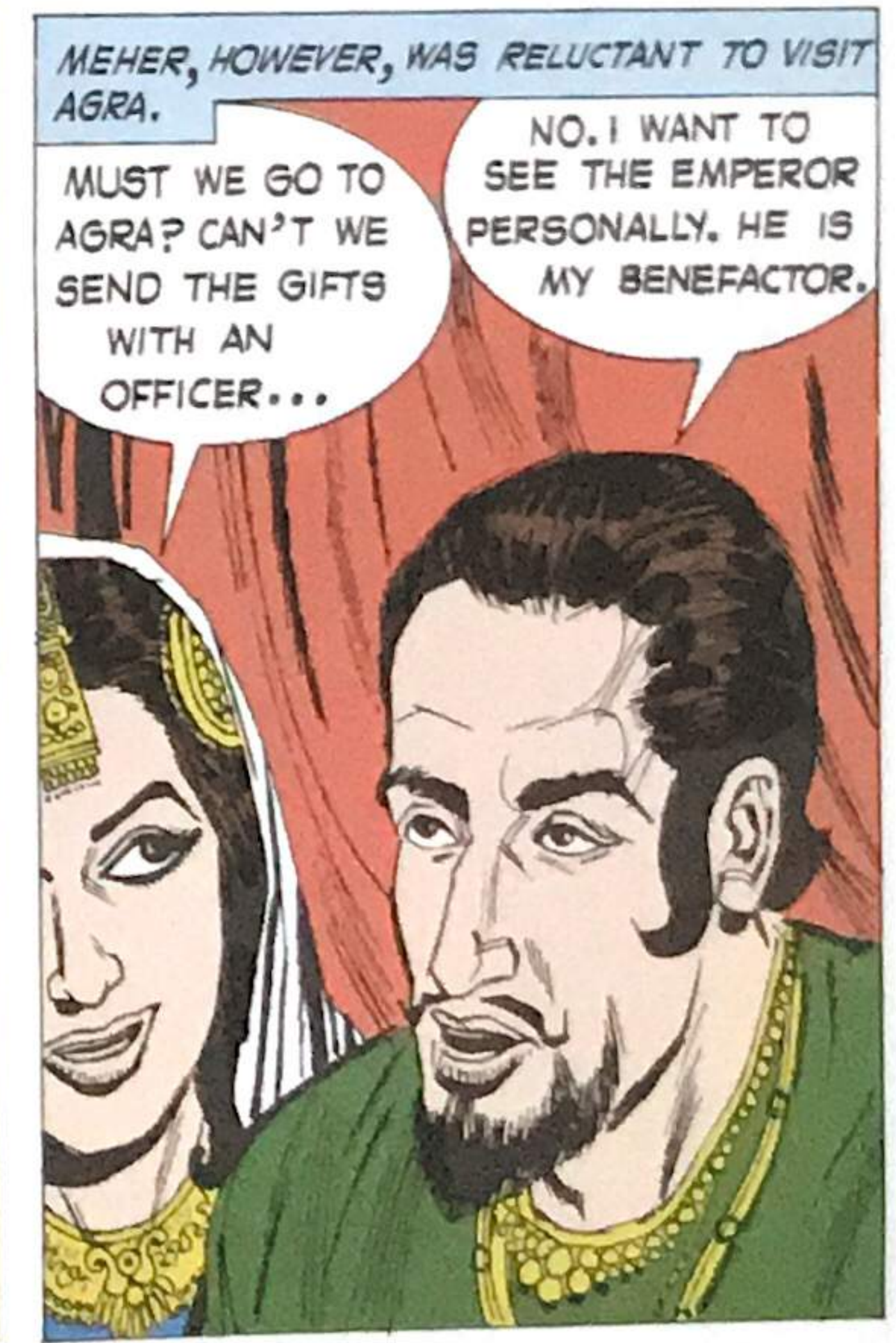
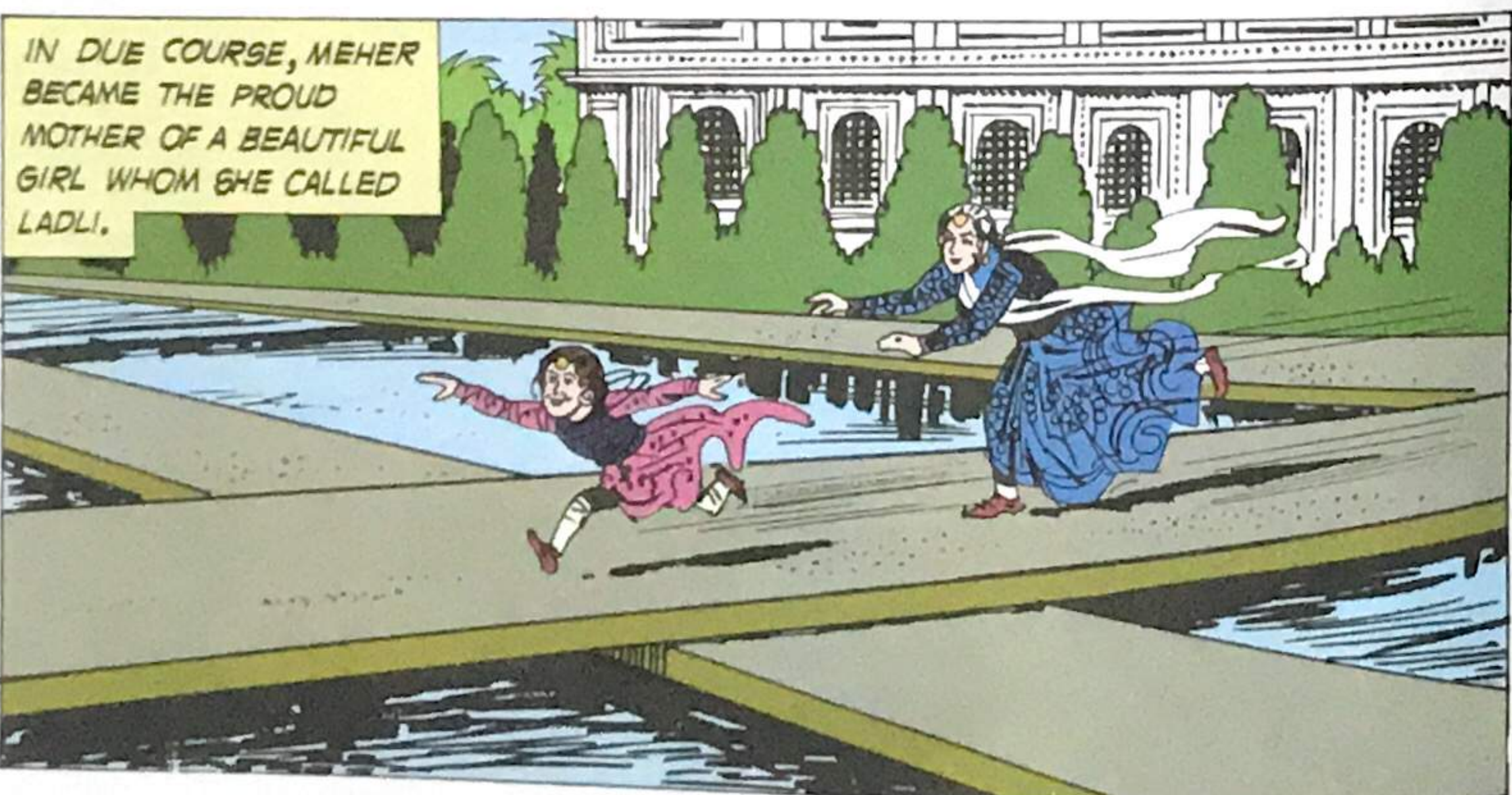
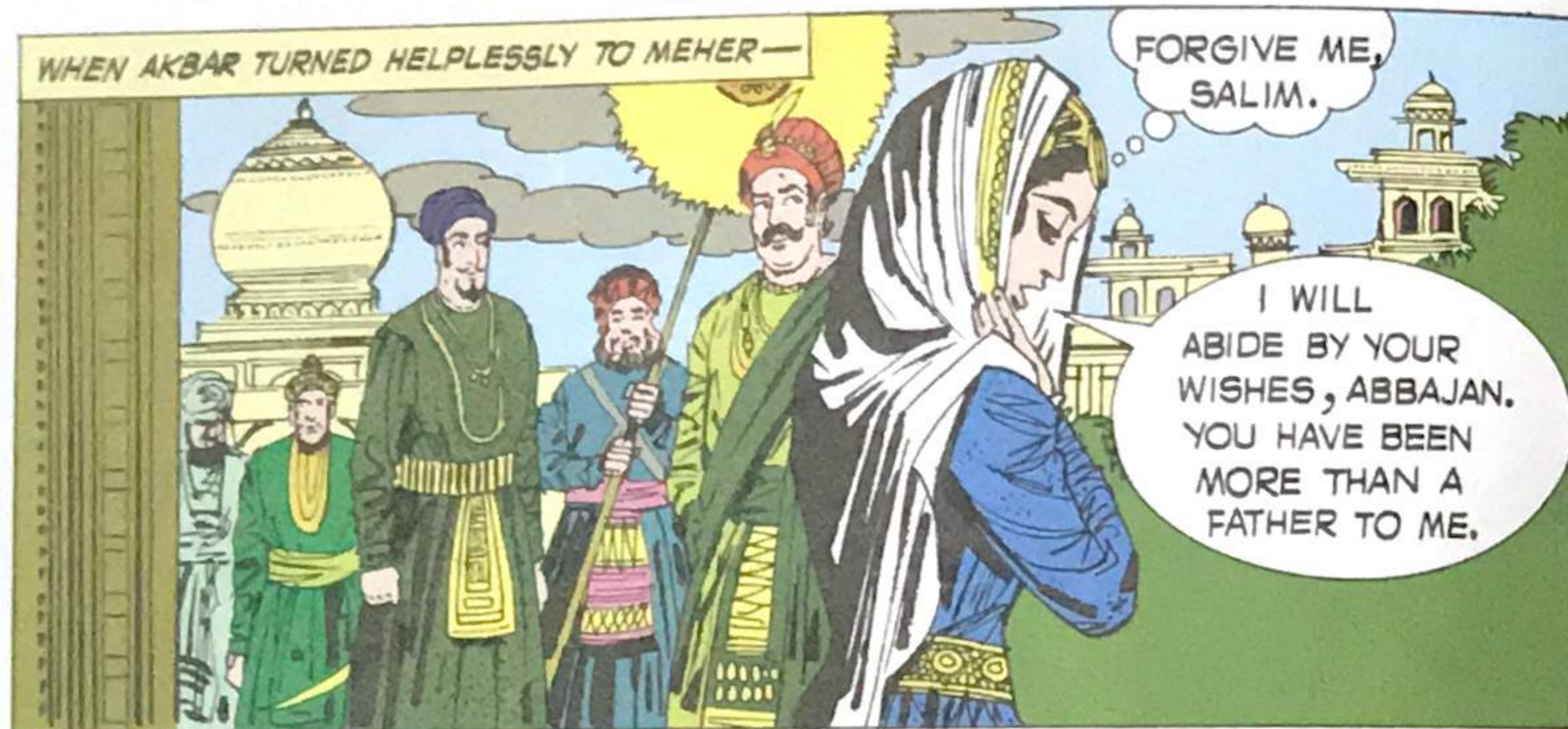
WHILE TAKING CARE TO FULFIL MY DUTIES AS AN EMPEROR, HAVE I FAILED AS A FATHER?



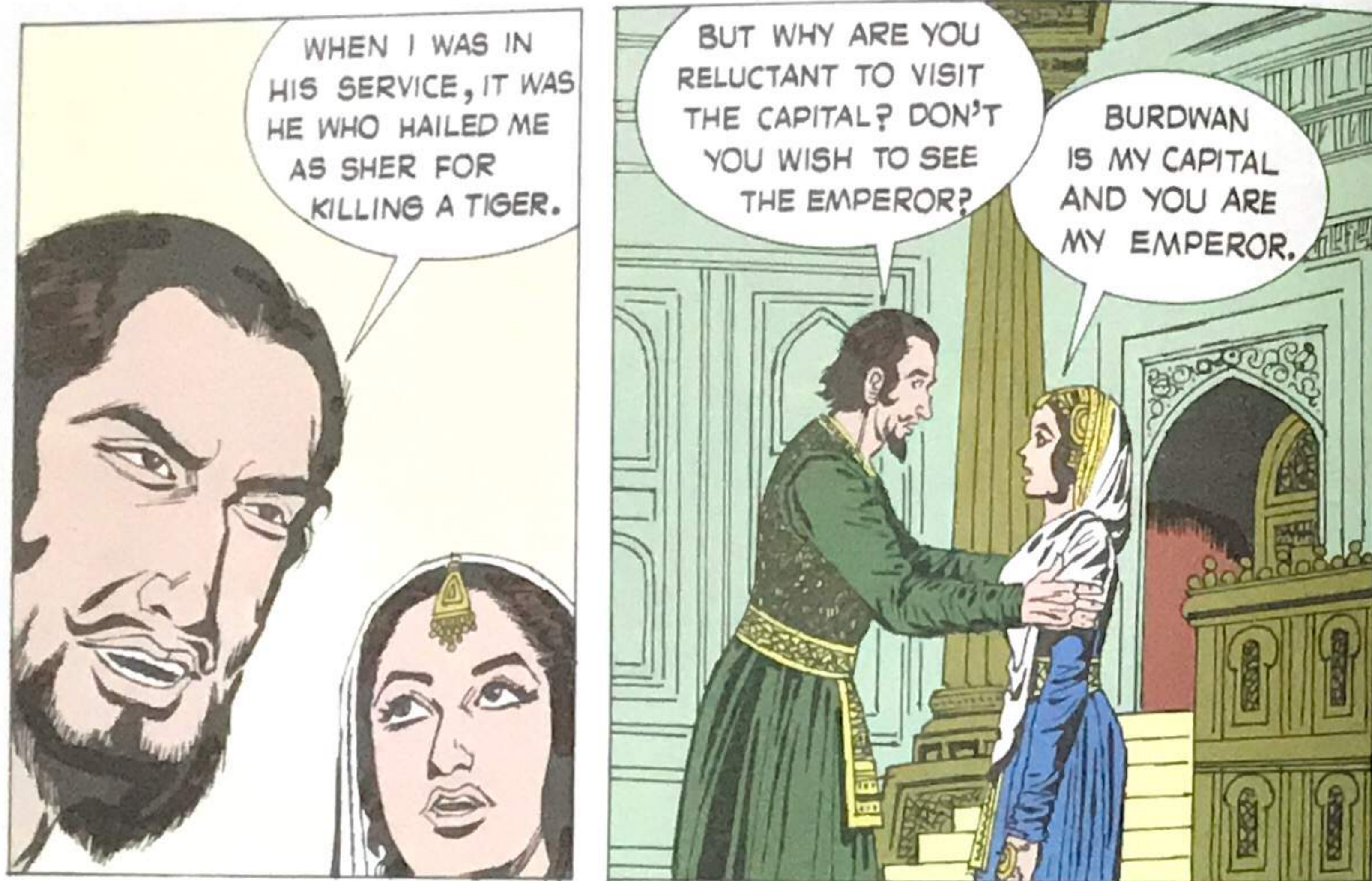








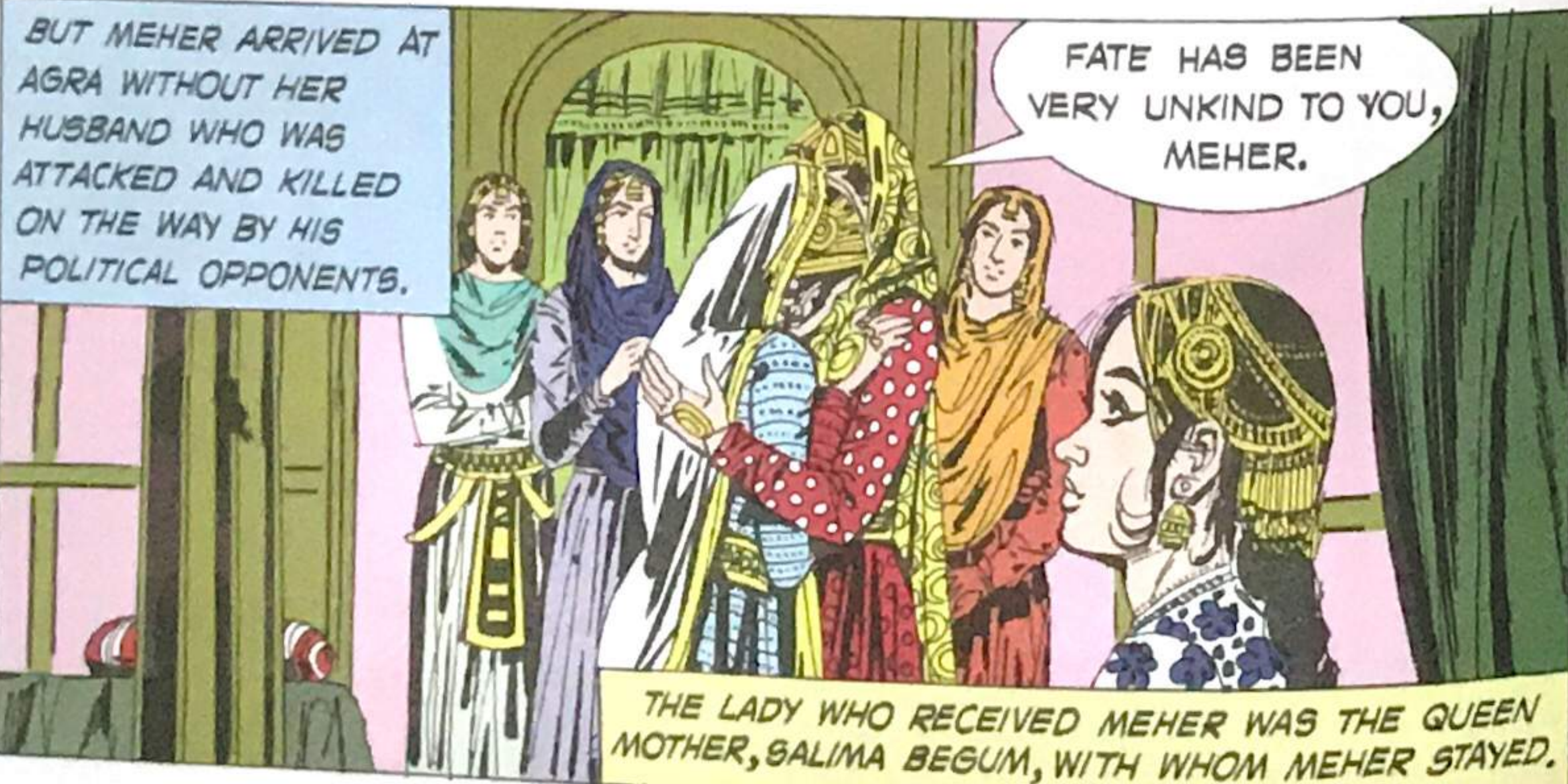




FINALLY, MEHER AGREED AND SHER AFGHAN LEFT FOR AGRA WITH HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER.



BUT MEHER ARRIVED AT AGRA WITHOUT HER HUSBAND WHO WAS ATTACKED AND KILLED ON THE WAY BY HIS POLITICAL OPPONENTS.



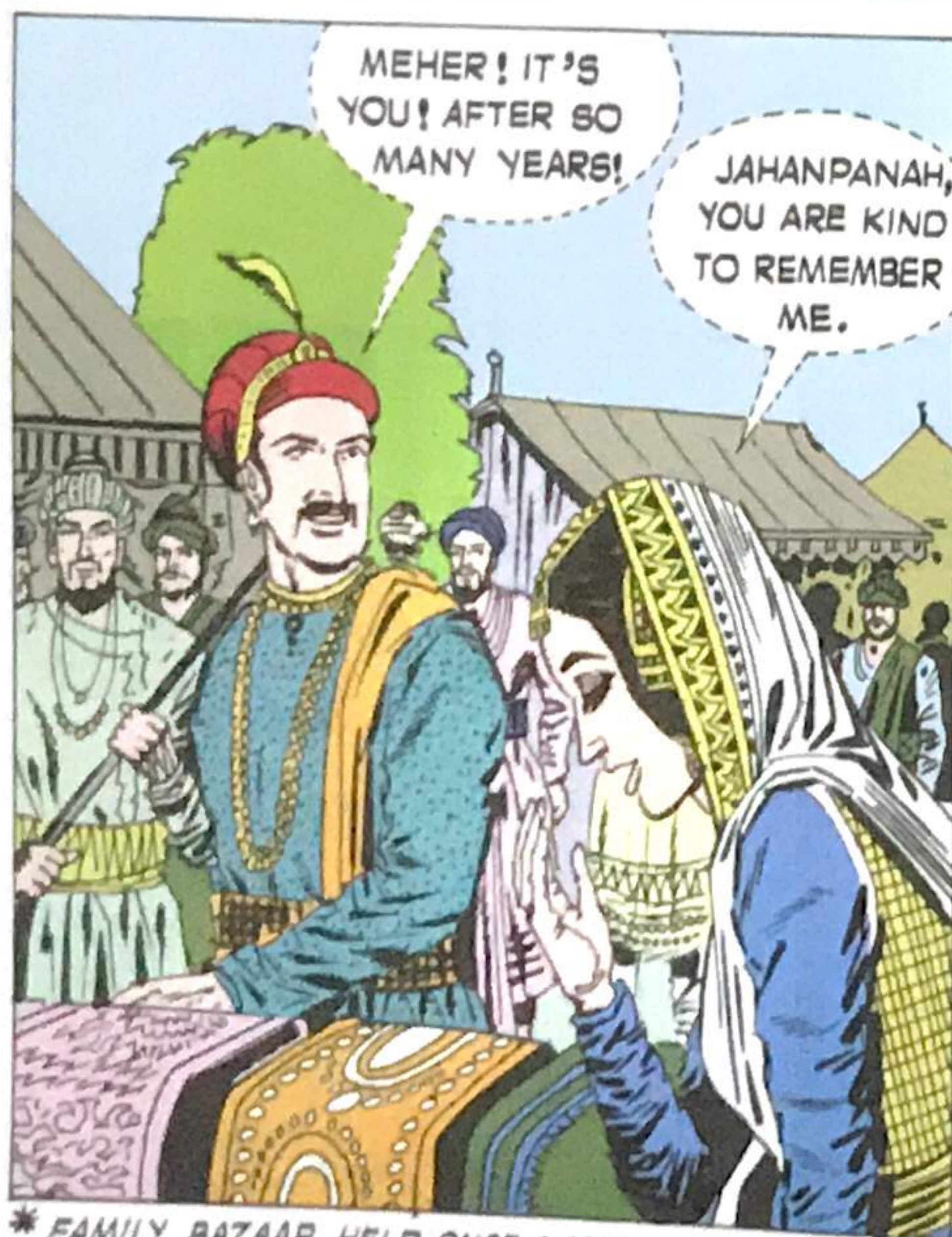
SOON THE LADIES IN THE COURT VIED WITH ONE ANOTHER TO WEAR DRESSES DESIGNED BY MEHER.



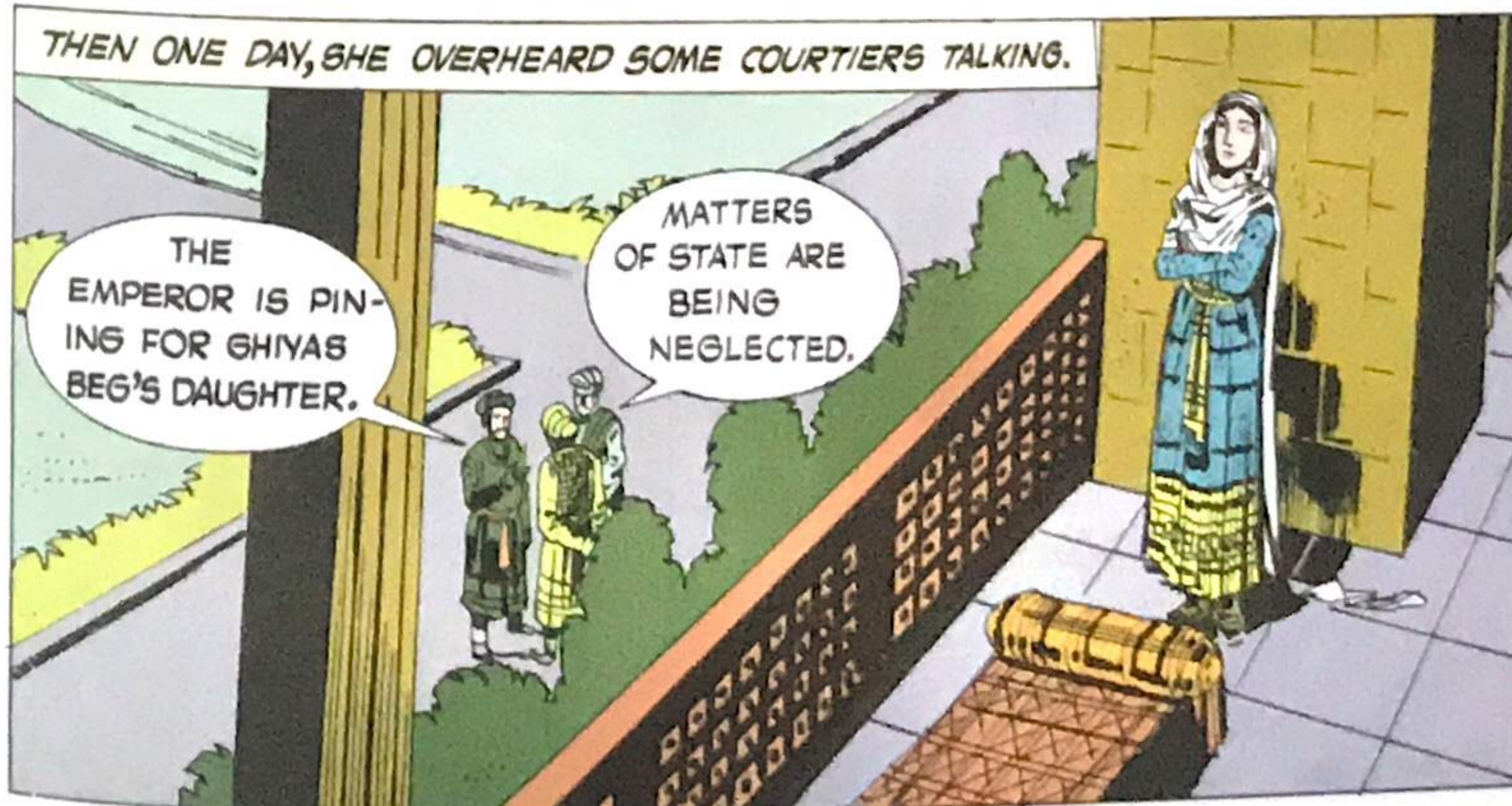
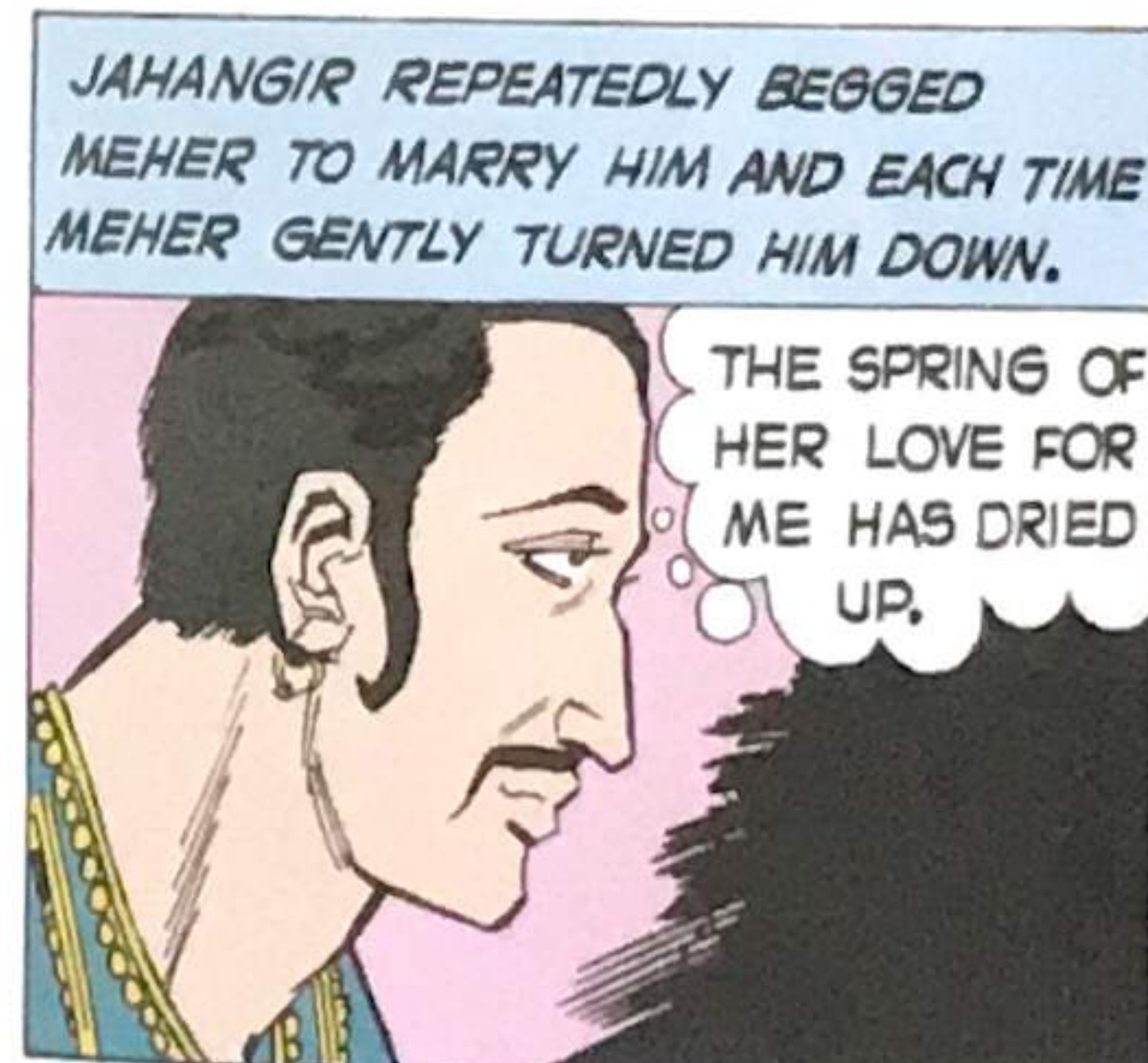
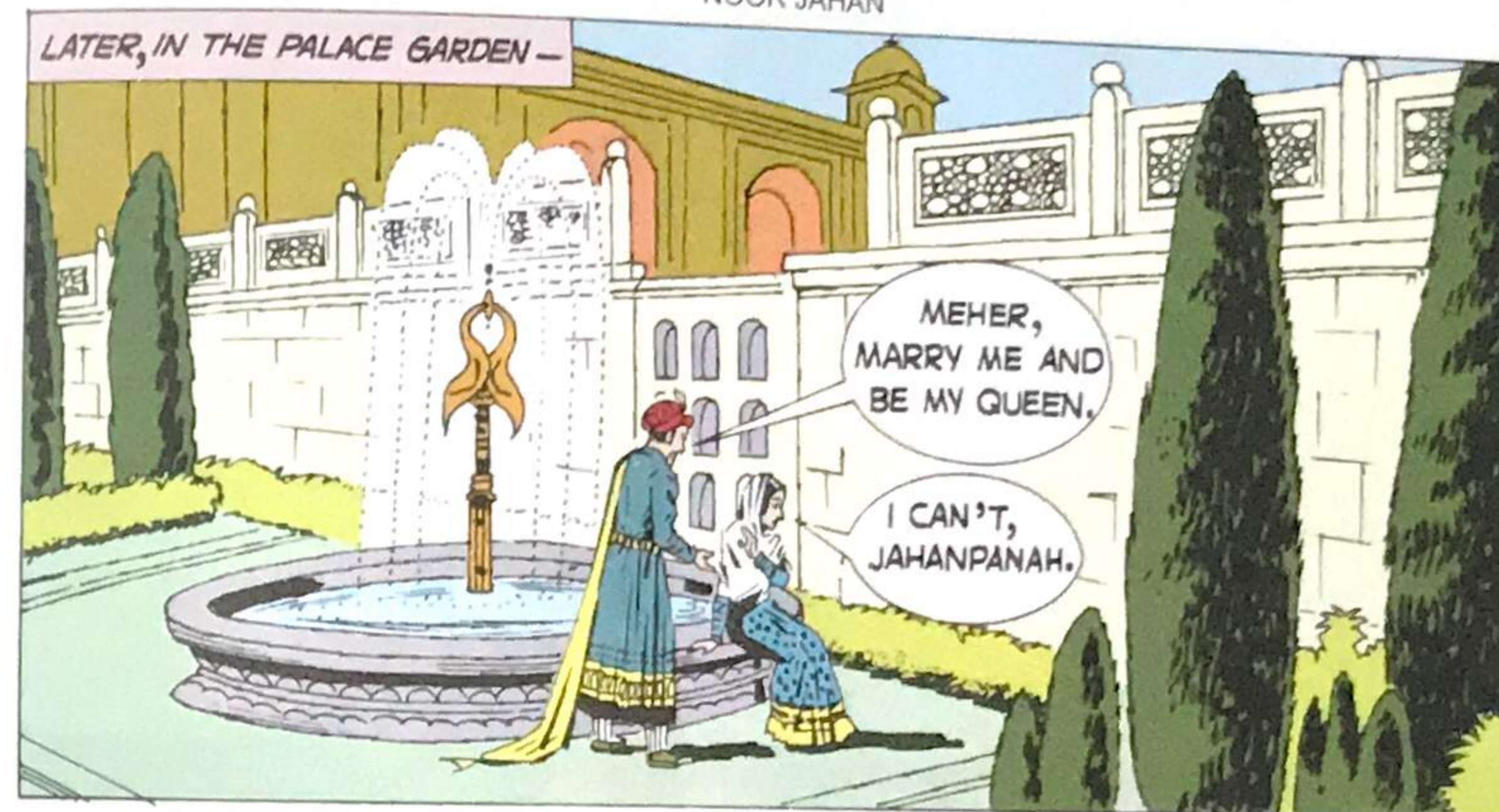
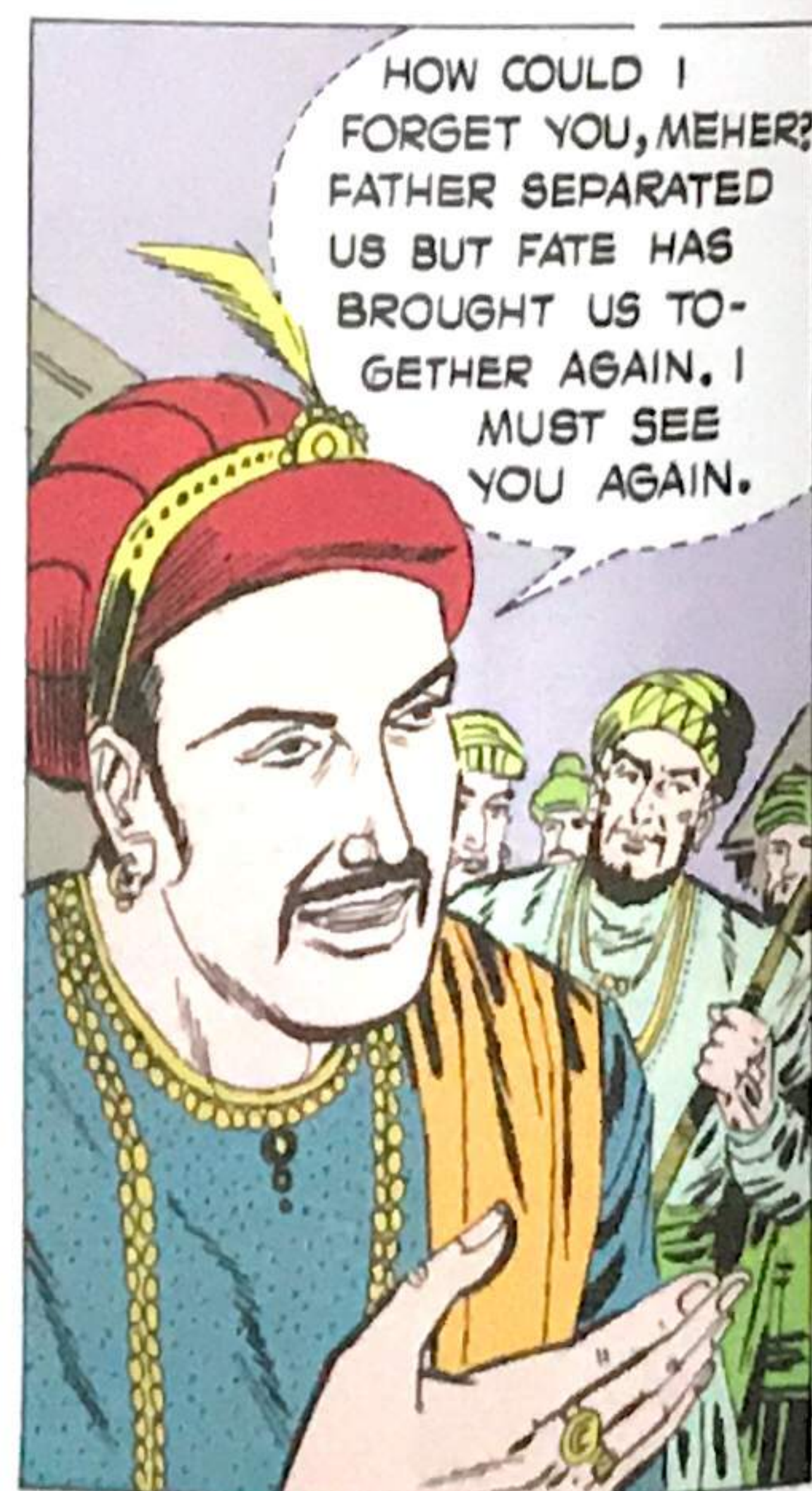
SHE ALSO MADE ATTAR\* OF ROSES. THIS SHE HAD LEARNT FROM HER MOTHER.



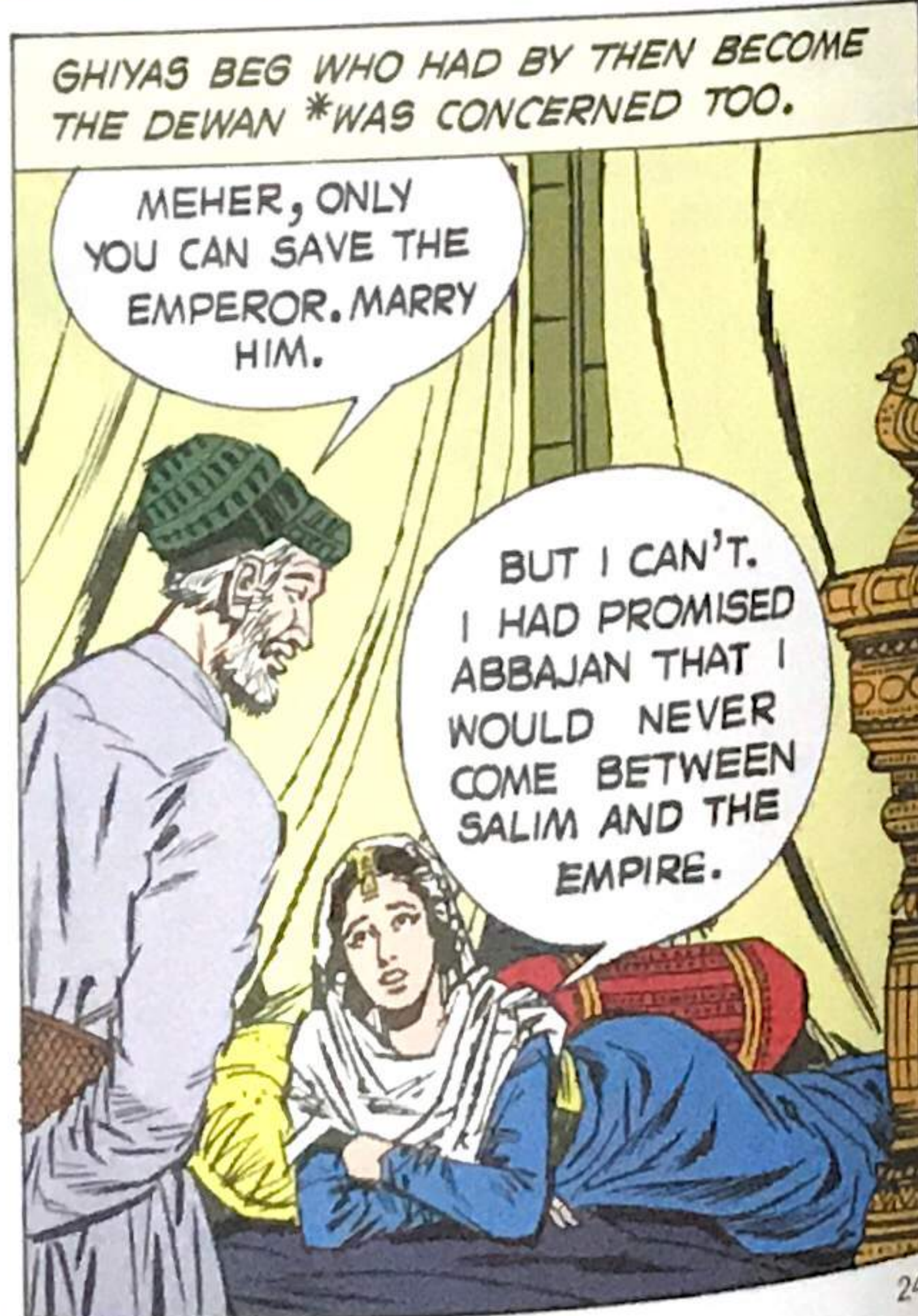




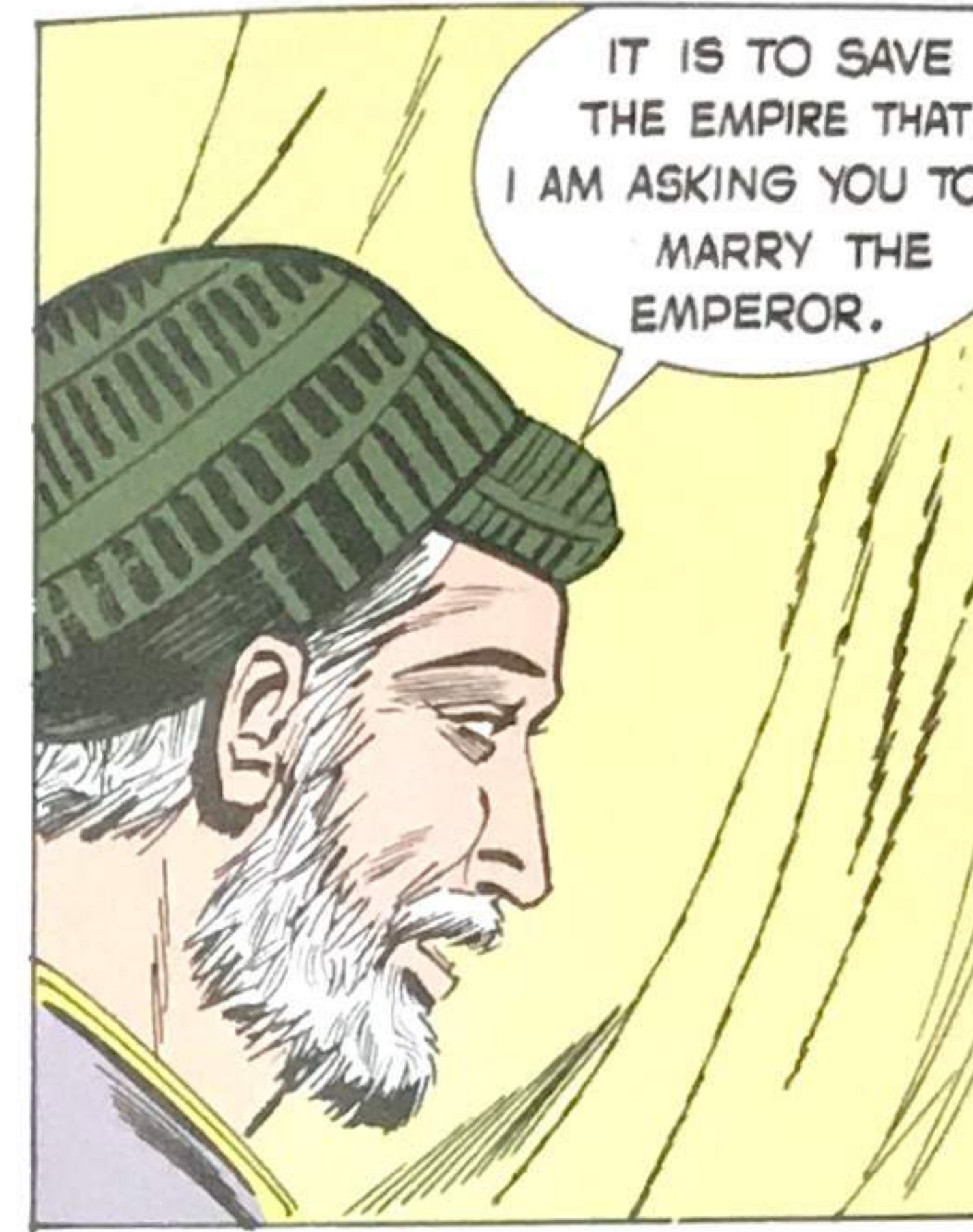
\* FAMILY BAZAAR HELD ONCE A YEAR, AT THE PALACE.



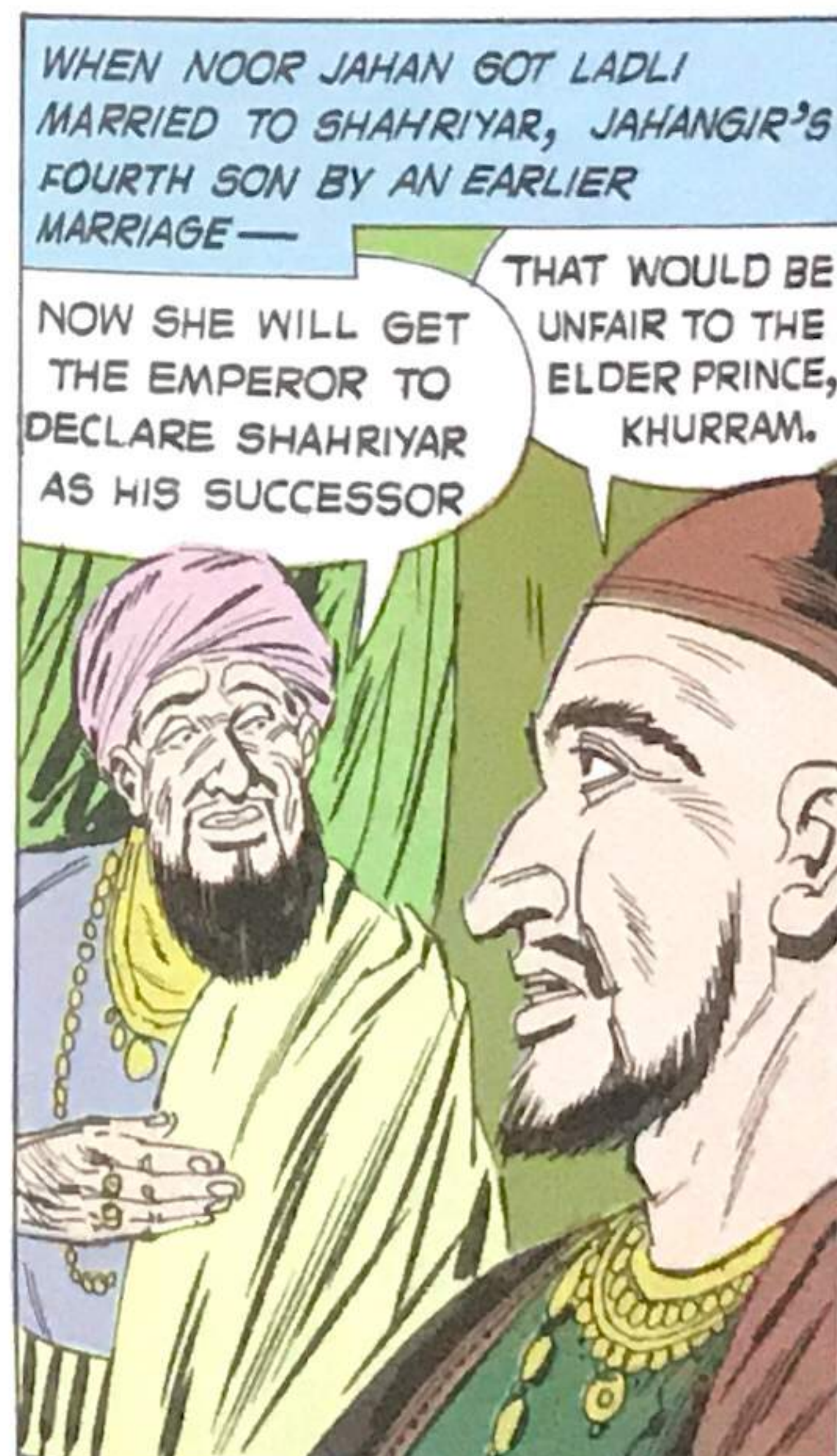
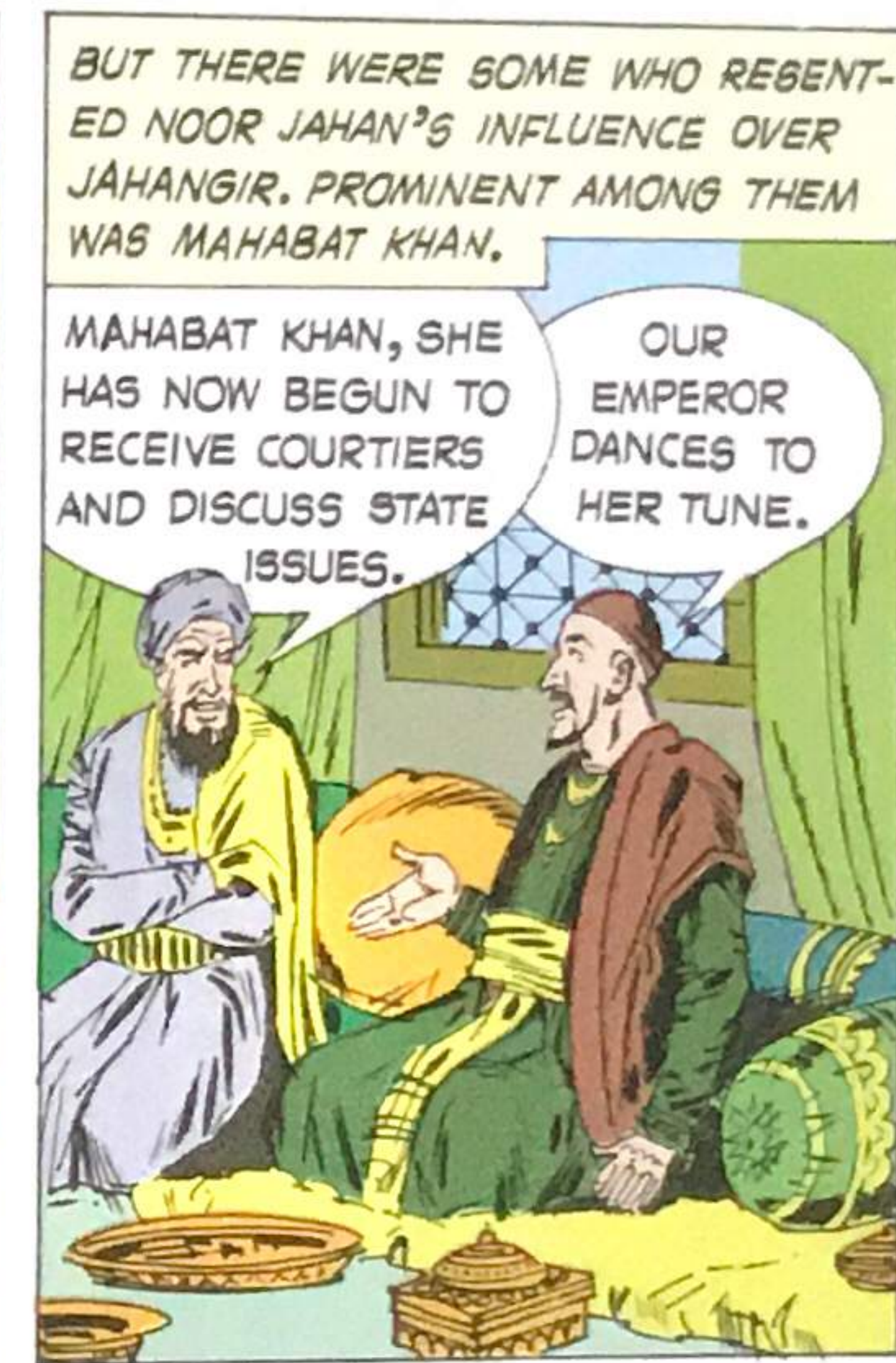
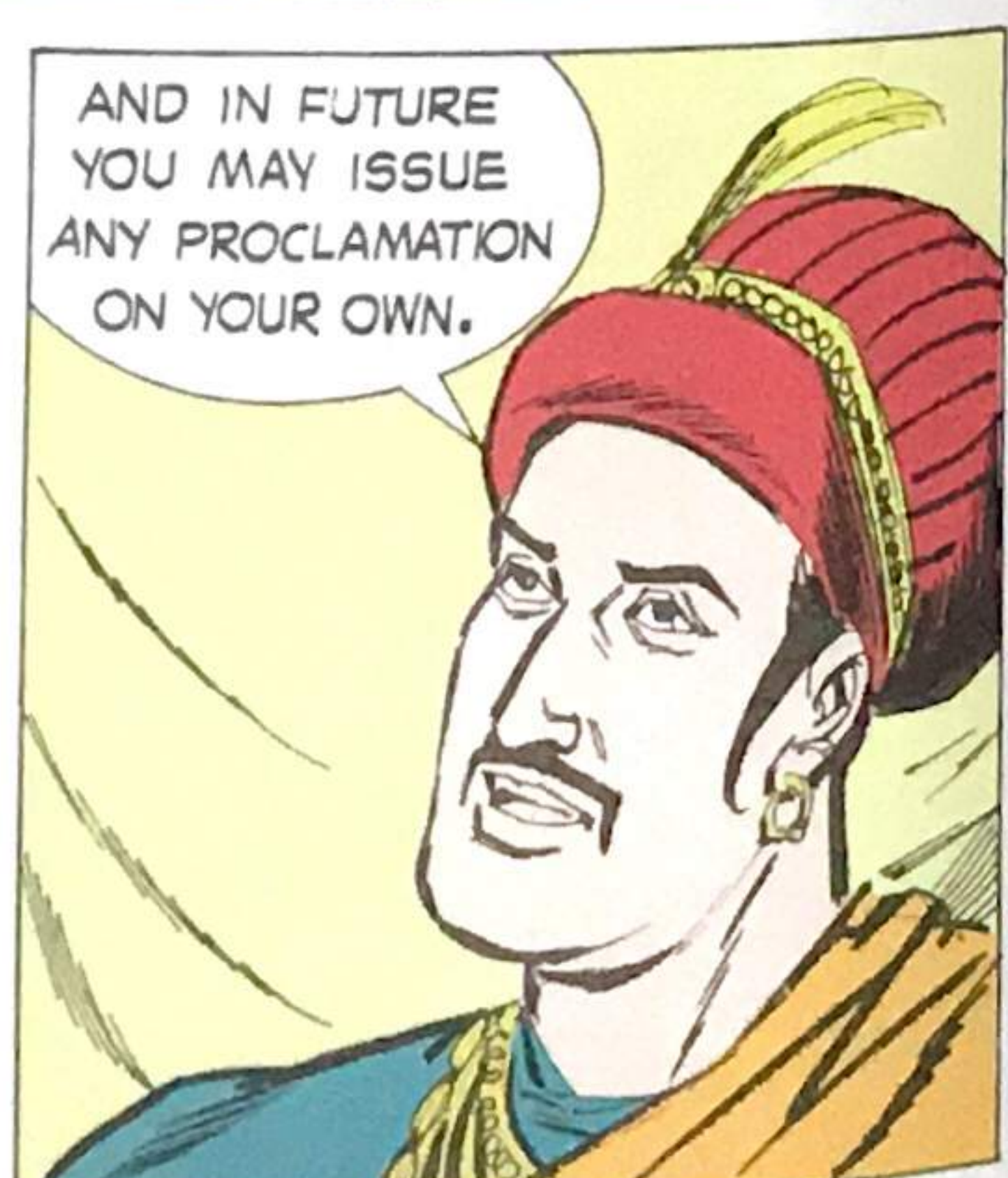
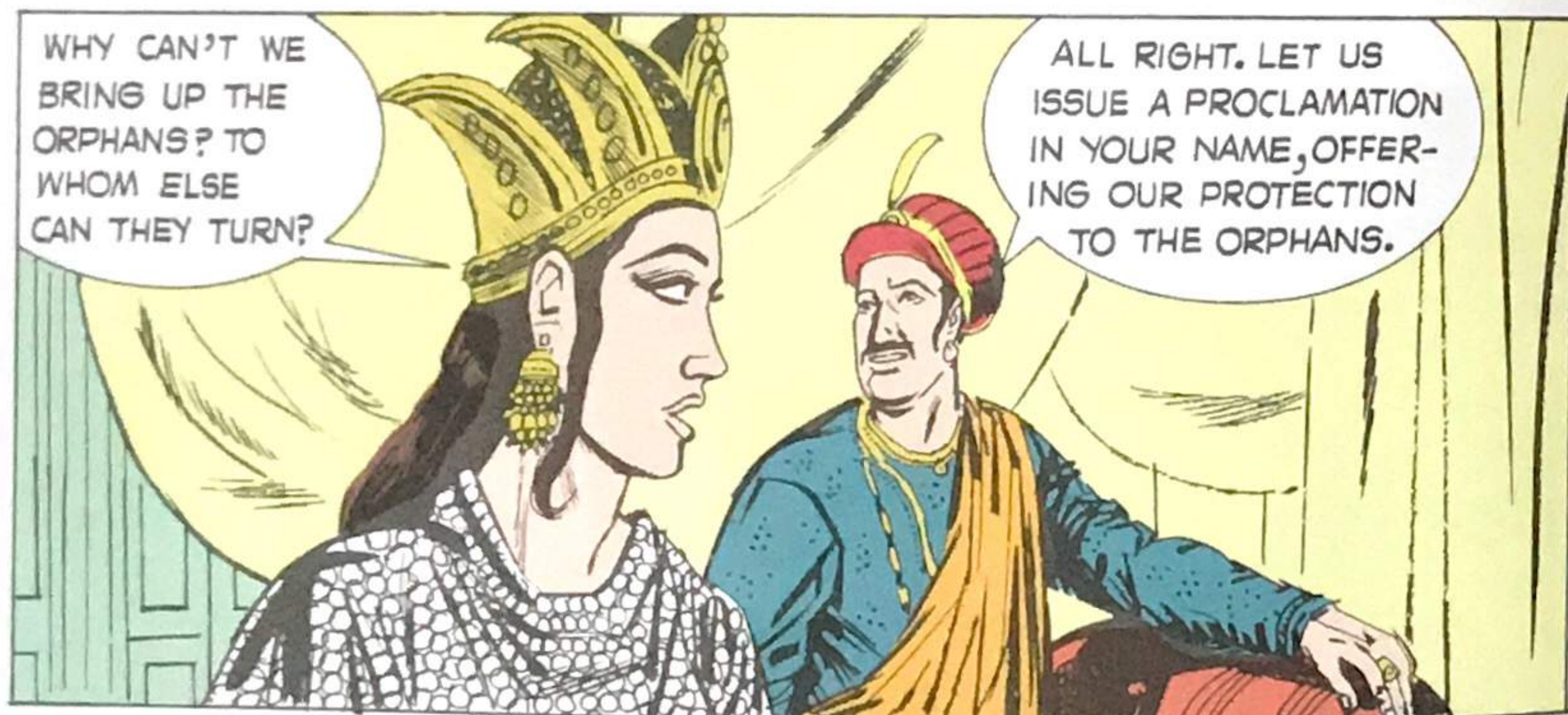
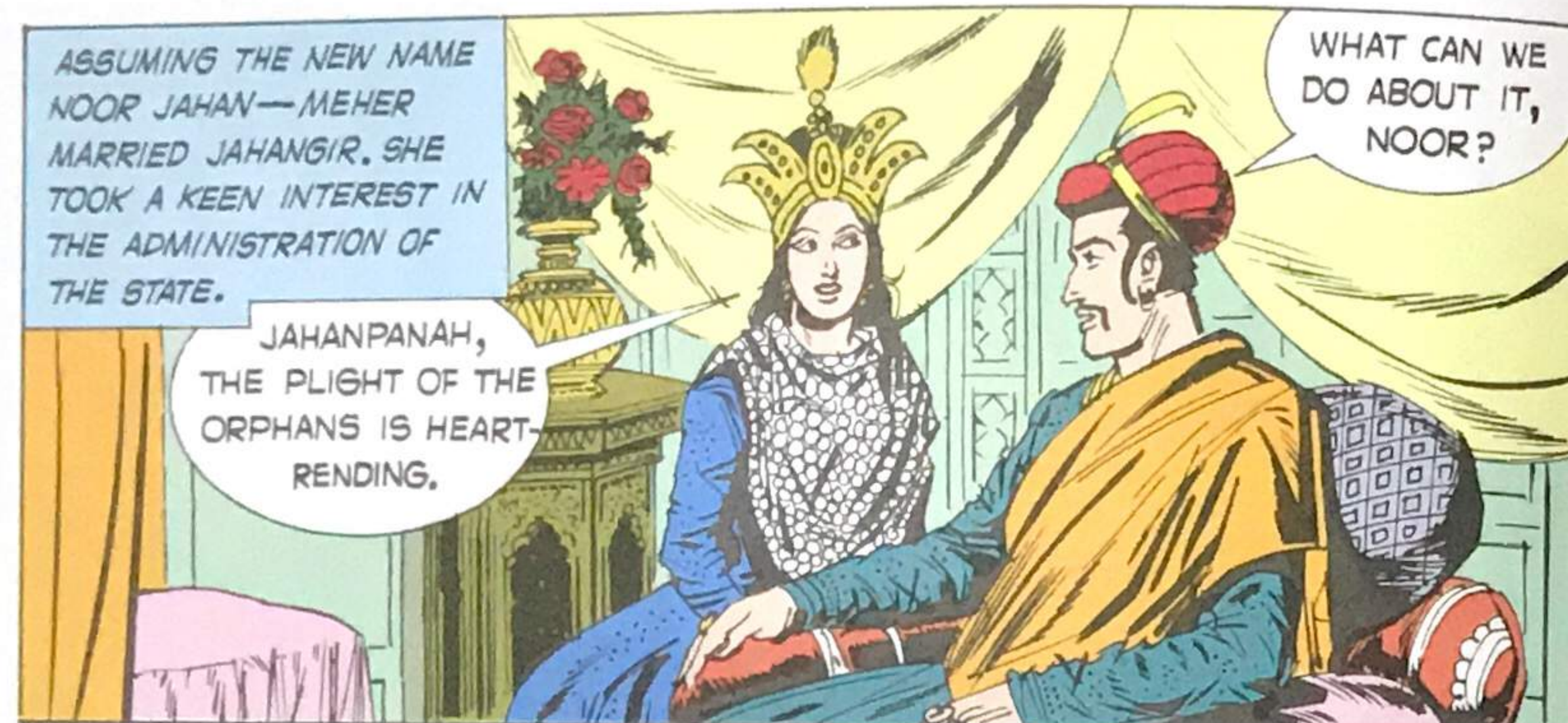




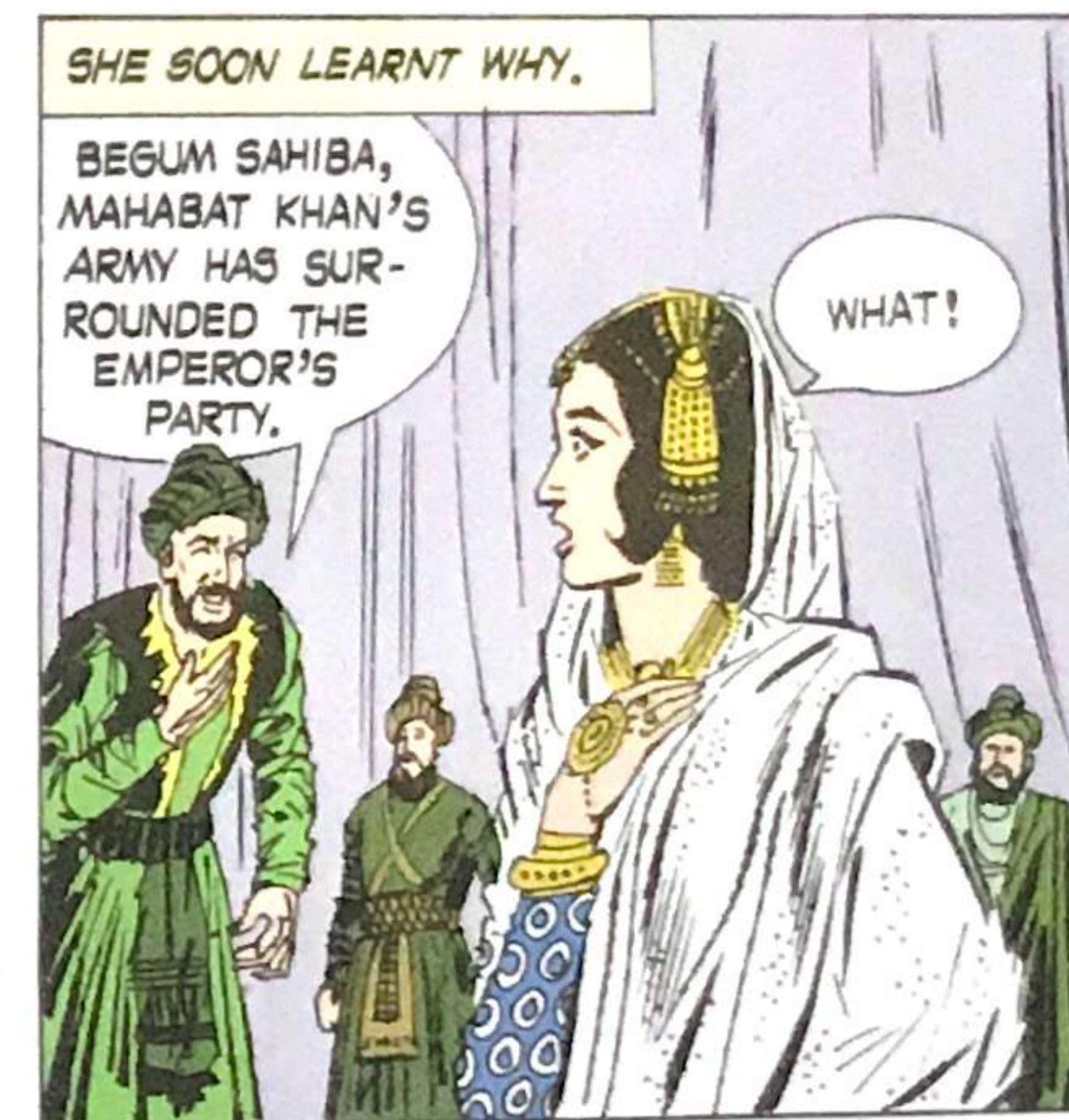
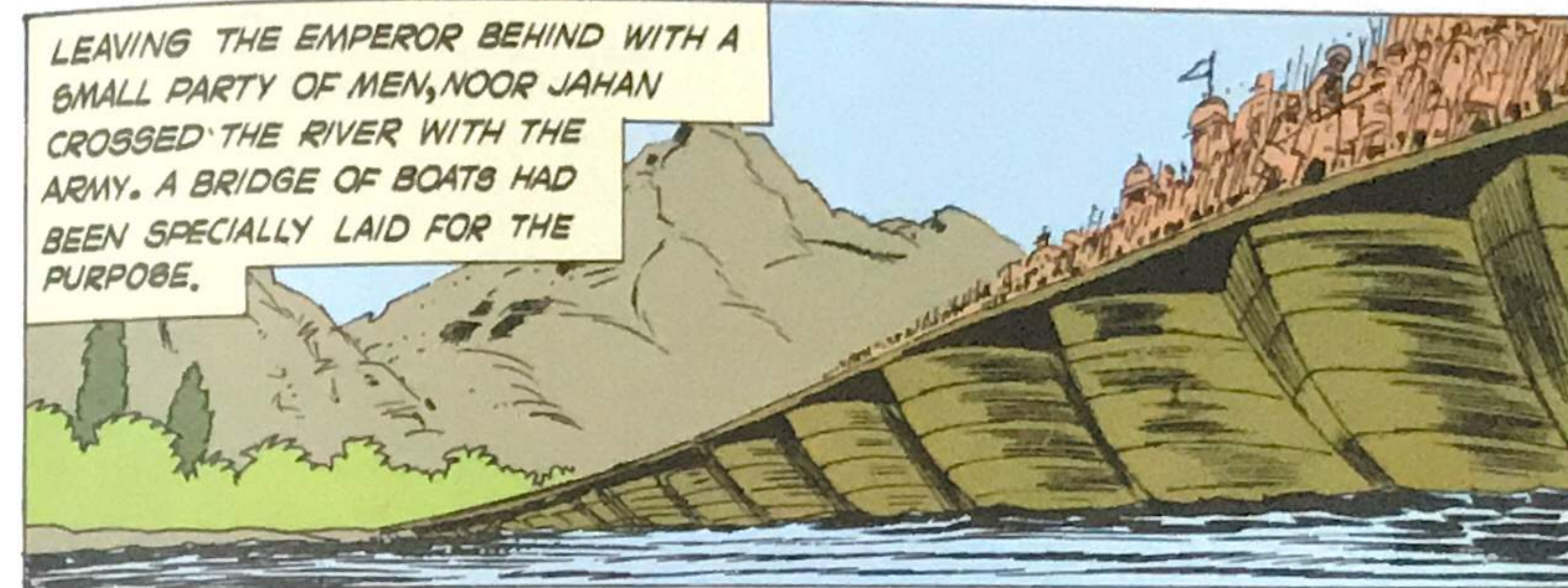
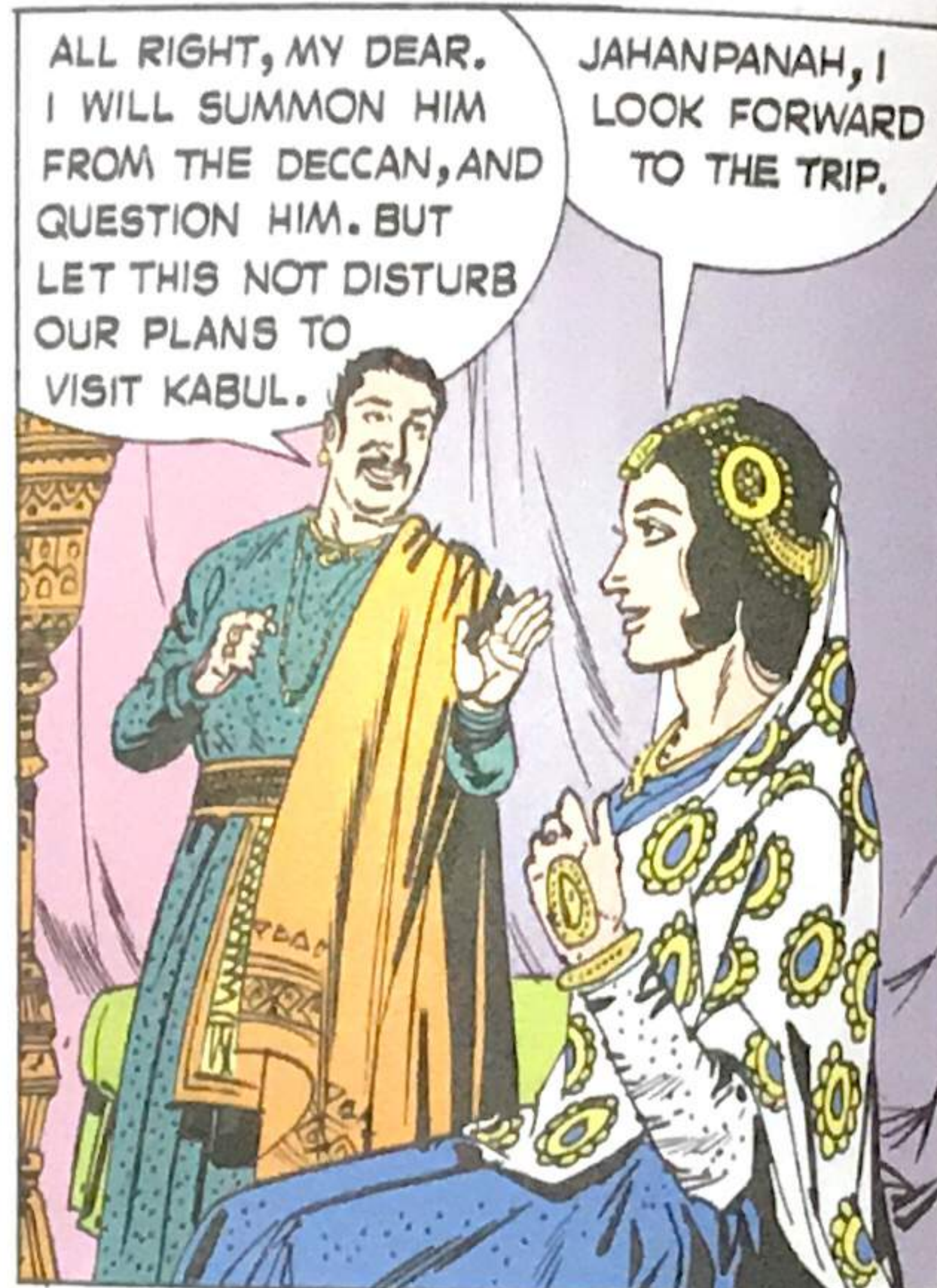
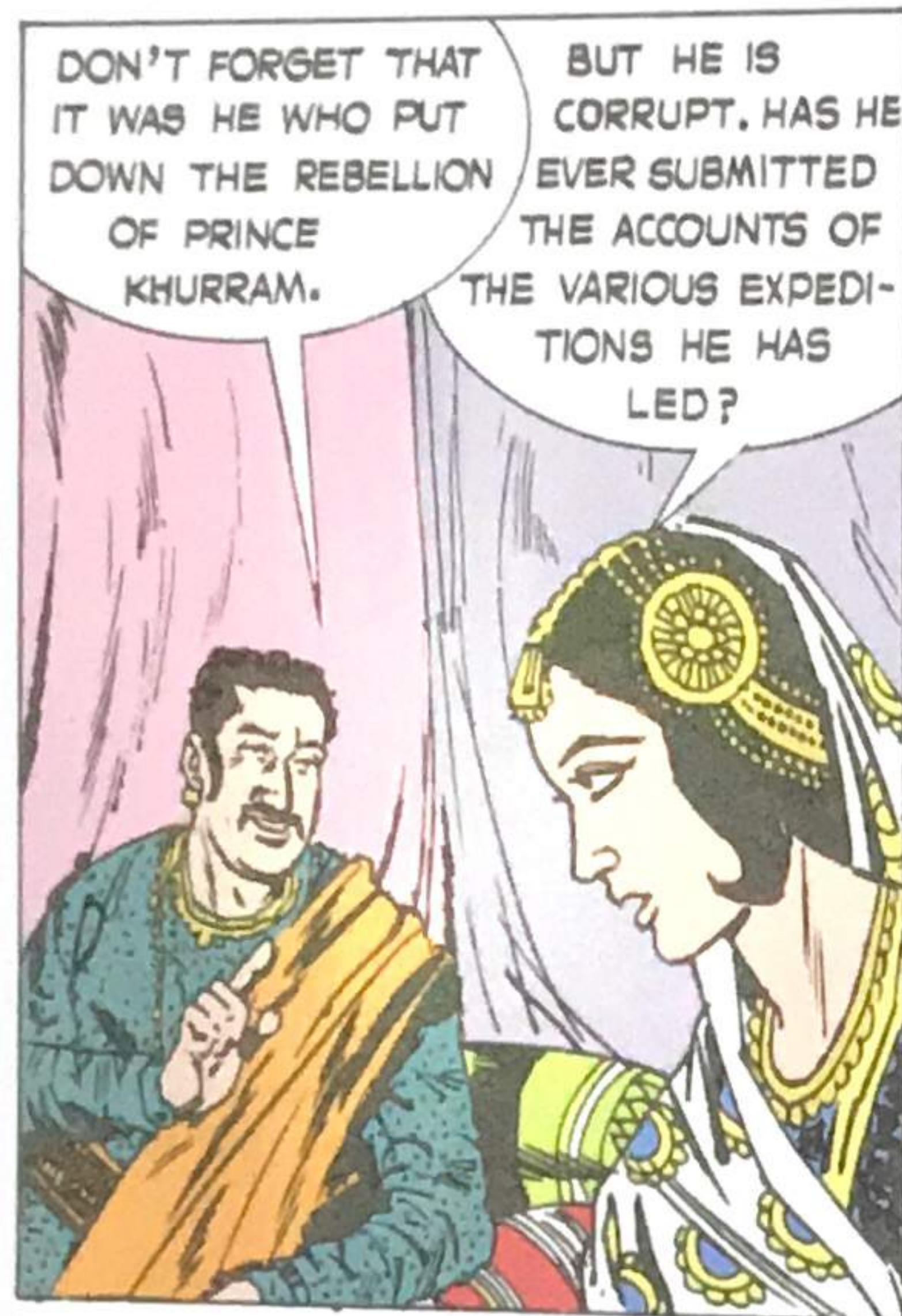
\* SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD.















BRIDGE OR NO  
BRIDGE, WE SHALL  
CROSS THE RIVER!  
NOW DO AS I SAY.



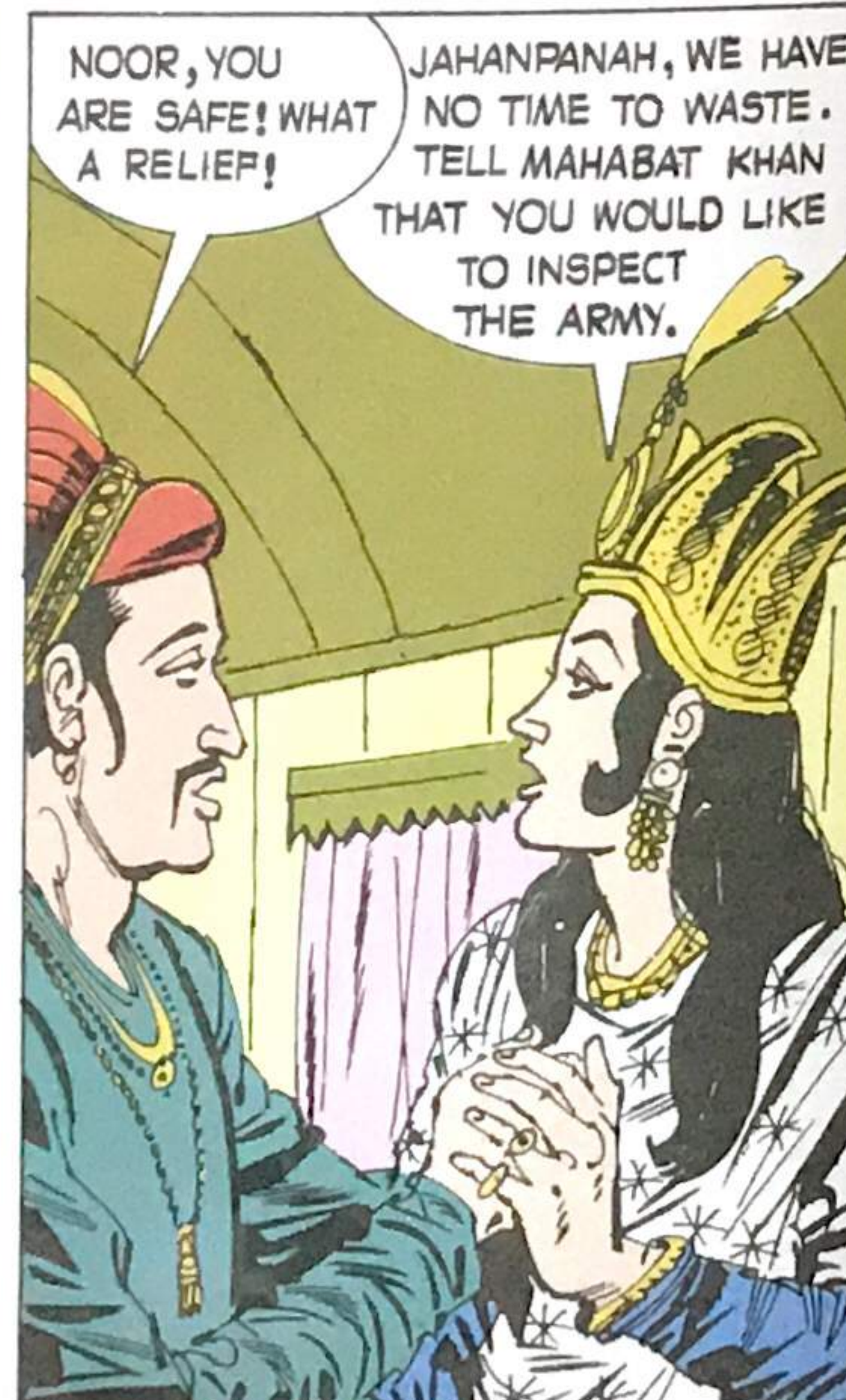
SHE MOUNTED AN ELEPHANT AND TAKING  
WITH HER A SMALL SECTION OF THE ARMY,  
CROSSED THE RIVER WHICH WAS IN SPATE.



IN THE FIGHT THAT FOLLOWED, SHE WAS  
DEFEATED AND TAKEN CAPTIVE.

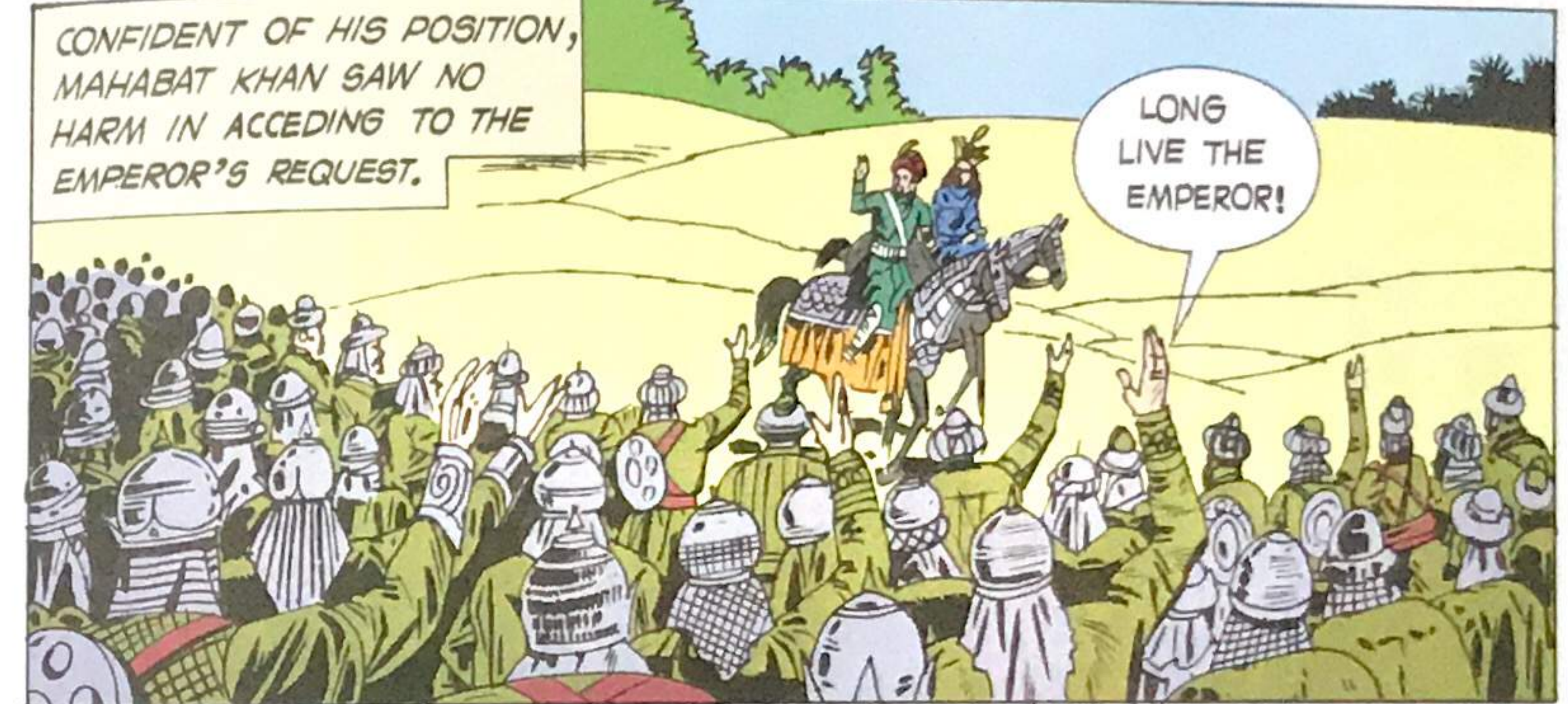
BEGUM SAHIBA, WHY  
DID YOU TAKE THIS  
UNNECESSARY  
RISK?

I HAVE NO  
WISH TO SPEAK TO  
A TRAITOR. LEAD ME  
TO THE EMPEROR.



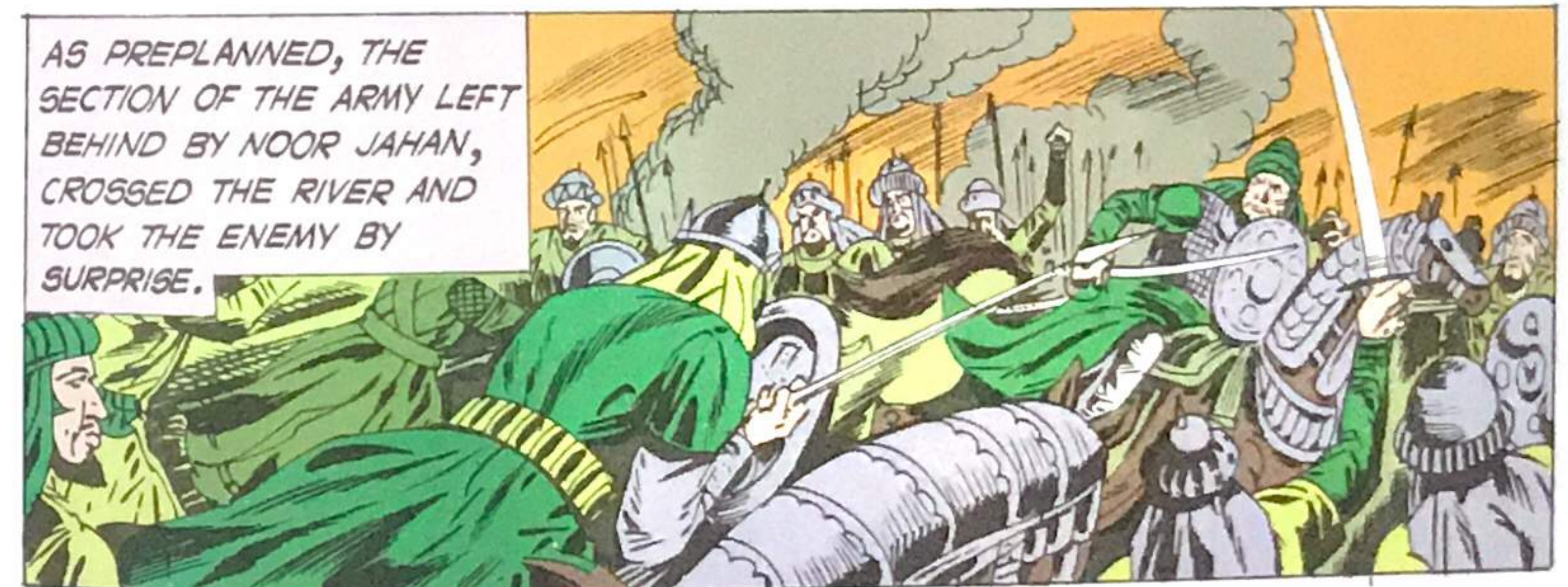
NOOR, YOU  
ARE SAFE! WHAT  
A RELIEF!

JAHANPANA, WE HAVE  
NO TIME TO WASTE.  
TELL MAHABAT KHAN  
THAT YOU WOULD LIKE  
TO INSPECT  
THE ARMY.

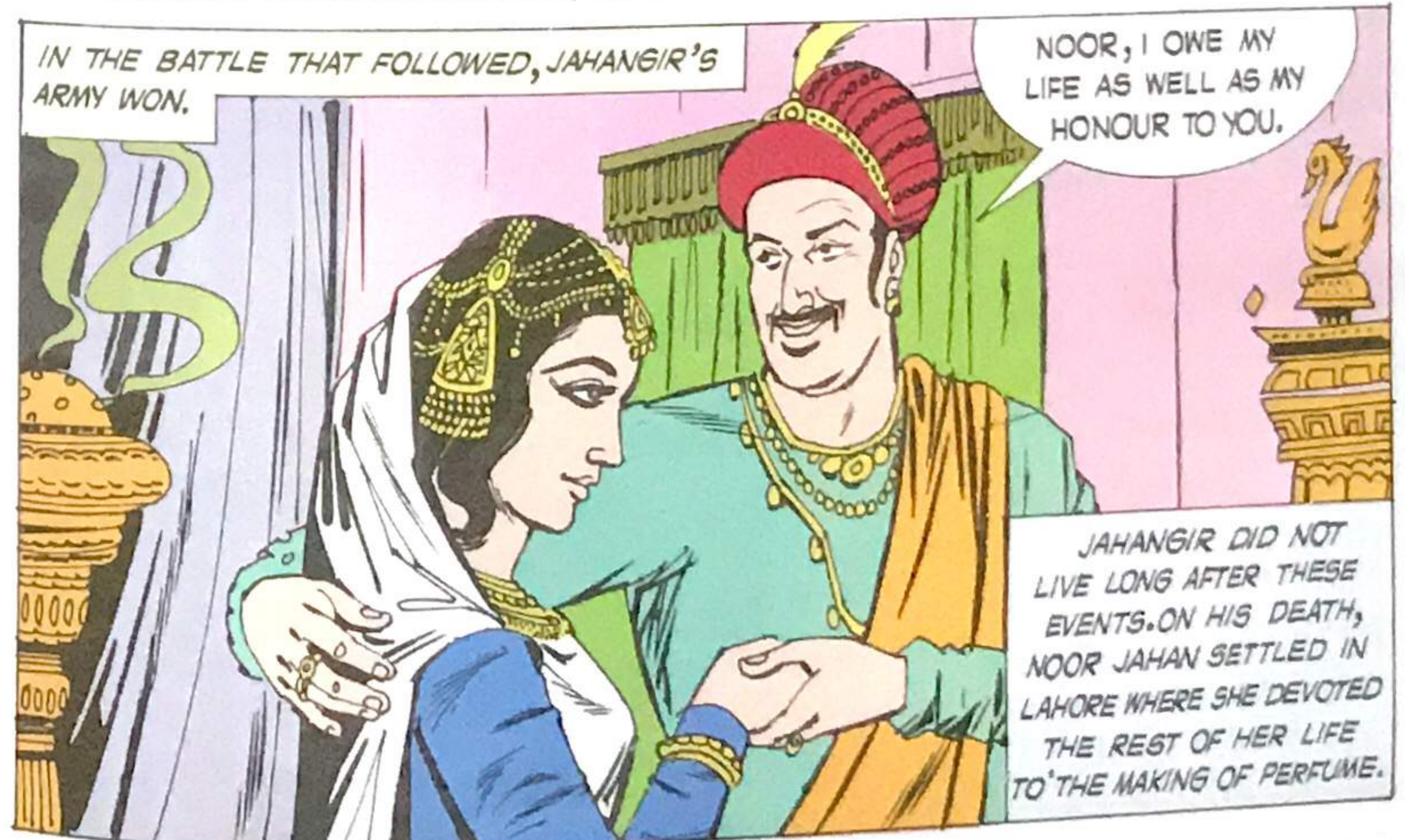


CONFIDENT OF HIS POSITION,  
MAHABAT KHAN SAW NO  
HARM IN ACCEDING TO THE  
EMPEROR'S REQUEST.

LONG  
LIVE THE  
EMPEROR!



AS PREPLANNED, THE  
SECTION OF THE ARMY LEFT  
BEHIND BY NOOR JAHAN,  
CROSSED THE RIVER AND  
TOOK THE ENEMY BY  
SURPRISE.



IN THE BATTLE THAT FOLLOWED, JAHANGIR'S  
ARMY WON.

NOOR, I OWE MY  
LIFE AS WELL AS MY  
HONOUR TO YOU.

JAHANGIR DID NOT  
LIVE LONG AFTER THESE  
EVENTS. ON HIS DEATH,  
NOOR JAHAN SETTLED IN  
LAHORE WHERE SHE DEVOTED  
THE REST OF HER LIFE  
TO THE MAKING OF PERFUME.